

County Borough of Stockport.



ANNUAL REPORT

— OF THE —
**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**



1926



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

County Borough of Stockport

FOR THE YEAR 1926.

BY

NICOLAS GEBBIE,

M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STOCKPORT

Swain & Co., Ltd., "Advertiser" Office, High Street.

The following are the Committees for 1926-27 :—

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR CHARLES WALMSLEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

THE MAYOR

(Councillor John Greenhalgh, J.P.).

ALDERMEN THOMAS ALLCOCK, SAMUEL BREWSTER, HENRY GREEN, WILLIAM E. HAMNETT, JOSEPH ROGERSON, AND CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.; COUNCILLORS ERNEST BARLOW, GEORGE H. BENNETT, ARTHUR DUTTON, JOHN W. FIDLER, THOMAS S. FISH, ROBERT GREGG, WILLIAM HAMLETT, HELEN HENDERSON, AND WILLIAM WALKER.

MEETINGS—3RD MONDAY IN EACH MONTH AT 3-30 P.M.

HOSPITAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR CHARLES WALMSLEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

ALDERMEN THOMAS ALLCOCK, SAMUEL BREWSTER, AND CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.; COUNCILLORS ERNEST BARLOW, GEORGE H. BENNETT, ARTHUR DUTTON, AND ROBERT GREGG.

MEETINGS—SECOND WEDNESDAY IN EACH MONTH AT 3-30 P.M.

SANATORIA SUB-COMMITTEE AND VENEREAL DISEASES SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR CHARLES WALMSLEY, J.P.

Vice Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

ALDERMEN THOMAS ALLCOCK, HENRY GREEN, JOSEPH ROGERSON, AND CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.; COUNCILLORS JOHN W. FIDLER, THOMAS S. FISH, AND WILLIAM WALKER.

MEETINGS—IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE MEETINGS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR CHARLES WALMSLEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

THE MAYOR
(Councillor John Greenhalgh, J.P.).

ALDERMEN HENRY GREEN, ROBERT A. MURRAY, M.D., O.B.E., J.P., JOSEPH ROGERSON, AND CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.; COUNCILLORS ERNEST BARLOW, WILLIAM A. DOWNHAM, JOHN W. FIDLER, THOMAS S. FISH, WILLIAM HAMLETT, HELEN HENDERSON, HENRY PATTEN, J.P., AND WILLIAM WALKER; MRS. N. W. BENNETT, MRS. AGNES N. BUCKLEY, MRS. EVELYN M. MURRAY, MRS. ELIZABETH POTTS, J.P., MRS. MARY A. SKUSE, J.P., AND MISS FLORENCE ROWBOTHAM, J.P.

MEETINGS—THIRD MONDAY IN EACH MONTH AT 3 P.M.

MATERNITY HOME SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman—COUNCILLOR CHARLES WALMSLEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

ALDERMAN JOSEPH ROGERSON; COUNCILLORS HELEN HENDERSON AND WILLIAM WALKER AND MRS. AGNES N. BUCKLEY AND MRS. ELIZABETH POTTS.

MEETINGS—FIRST TUESDAY IN EACH MONTH AT 3-30 P.M.

SUB-COMMITTEE RE DISTRIBUTION OF MILK.

COUNCILLOR CHARLES WALMSLEY, J.P.

COUNCILLOR JOHN W. FIDLER.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman—ALDERMAN JOHN W. CRAIG.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN CHARLES SHARPLES, J.P.

THE MAYOR.
(Councillor John Greenhalgh, J.P.).

ALDERMEN WILLIAM E. HAMNETT, ROBERT A. MURRAY, M.D., O.B.E., J.P. AND CHARLES ROYLE, J.P.; COUNCILLORS DANIEL K. BEELEY, WILLIAM H. CLAYTON, JOHN COUPE, ARTHUR DUTTON, GEORGE GILL, HELEN HENDERSON, JOSEPH T. LEIGH, GEORGE MARPLES, JOSEPH MORTON, WILLIAM NOBLE, WILLIAM STANTON AND EDWIN WALSH.

MEETINGS—SECOND TUESDAY IN EACH MONTH AT 3 P.M.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health ; Medical Superintendent, Corporation Hospitals ;
Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Officer ; Medical Officer to the
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and to the Education
Committee :—

NICOLAS GEBBIE, M.D., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Tuberculosis and Venereal
Diseases Officer :—

HENRY RICHMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Consultant Venereal Diseases Officer :—

W. J. S. REID, M.A., B.Sc., M.D., M.R.C.P.

Deputy Medical Superintendent, Isolation and Tuberculosis Hospitals :—

JAMES WORTHINGTON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M.

Public Analyst (Part-time) :—JAMES P. SHENTON, F.I.C., F.C.S.

Chief Inspector and Inspector of Foods, &c. :—W. BUTLER. §°

District Inspectors	}	Also Factory and Workshop Inspector..J. ASHTON §
		.....J. R. BATES
		.....H. PRICE §°
		.....F. MILLS §°
		.....P. M. BLOMFIELD §

Shops Act Inspector and Ambulance Attendant.....A. E. HAMBLET.

Ambulance Driver.....J. WEBB

Health Visitors	}	.....Miss K. M. JONES §†α
		.....Miss E. B. SWAN §††
		.....Mrs. P. B. BALL*††
		.....Miss E. SNOWDON*†
		.....Miss E. MORLEY*†
		.....Miss L. M. DREW*†
		for Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Miss M. M. SMITH*†

Matron, Isolation and Tuberculosis Hospitals.....Miss T. P. CRANMORE

Matron, Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital.....Miss B. L. SCOTT

Deputy Matron, Isolation Hospital.....Miss K. RICHARDSON

Deputy Matron, Tuberculosis Hospital.....Miss E. E. WILSON

Clerical Staff	}	.....H. BAILEY
		.....A. ROWLAND, A.C.I.S
		.....L. JARMAN
		(At Dispensary).....Mrs. F. STEAD
		.....Miss A. B. BELLERBY

V.D. Orderly (Part-time).....W. E. LEES

§ Certificate, Inspector of Nuisances.

° Certificate, Meat and Other Foods.

* Certificate of General Training.

† Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

‡ Certificate (old) R.S.I., Health Visitors.

α Certificate (new) R.S.I., Health Visitors.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Stockport.

MR. MAYOR, COUNCILLOR MRS. HENDERSON, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report upon the Health, Sanitary Circumstances, and Vital Statistics of the County Borough of Stockport for the year 1926.

This Report, my first as your Medical Officer of Health, has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, and is an Ordinary Report of the series.

Throughout the Report there is ample evidence of arduous and pains-taking work on the part of all members of the Staff of the Department under my control.

In this preliminary statement attention can only be directed briefly to a few of the measures undertaken by the Department in the care of the Public Health during the period under review. Full details are submitted in the various sections of this report dealing with Health Statistics, General Sanitation, Housing, Food and Drugs, Infectious Diseases, Hospitals, Tuberculosis, Venereal Diseases, and Maternity and Child Welfare.

The estimated population given by the Registrar-General for the middle of 1926 is 125,400, being a decrease of 500 on the corresponding estimated figure for 1925. The Birth-rate for the year, 16.06 per 1,000 of the population, remains low and is the local manifestation of that decline in the Birth-rate which has been so marked a feature of the statistics generally within recent years.

The general Death-rate of 12.78 per 1,000 of the population shows a welcome decrease from that of 1925, viz., 13.94 per 1,000, but is high when compared with the figure of 11.6 per 1,000, the rate for England and Wales and for the 105 Great Towns.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 81.9 per thousand births registered is highly satisfactory. With the exception of the record figure of 77 for the year 1922 the rate of Infant Mortality for 1926 is the lowest recorded for the County Borough. A low rate of Infant Mortality is most welcome

not only in view of the declining Birth-rate, but also because of the decrease in the amount of infant sickness and suffering which it indicates.

With regard to the Notifiable Infectious Diseases the attention of the Department has been specially directed towards the following circumstances :--

(1) The Scarlet Fever Epidemic prevalent during the previous years continued to spread, and the number of cases of this disease notified during 1926 reached the very high figure of 840. This epidemic has thrown a heavy burden upon the Inspectorial and Clerical Staffs of the Department and has strained to its uttermost the available accommodation at the Isolation Hospital.

(2) An epidemic of Pemphigus Neonatorum occurred in the Borough in June and subsequent months of the year under review, but the outbreak was soon brought under control.

Full details of the measures adopted in dealing with cases of Infectious Disease are given in the appropriate sections of the report.

The work of the Department as a whole has been of a high standard, the administration of the Isolation Hospitals at Cherry Tree Lane and at Whitehill and of the Municipal Maternity Home at Mile End Hall has been ably carried out, and the Clinics for Tuberculosis, for Venereal Diseases, and for Maternity and Child Welfare have been systematically held and were well attended.

My best thanks are due to all the members of the Medical, Nursing, Inspectorial and Clerical Staffs of the Department for their loyalty and their devotion to duty, and to the members of all Voluntary Organisations working in co-operation for their timely help.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen, and the Members of the various Committees for their personal kindness to me and for their sympathetic consideration and ready help in all matters concerning the preservation of the Public Health.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

NICOLAS GEBBIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Offices,

Town Hall,

Stockport.

April, 1927.

County Borough of Stockport, 1926.

Statistical Memoranda.

	Stockport	England and Wales.	105 County Boroughs & Great Towns.	158 Smaller Towns.
		(1)	(2)	(3)
Population (Census 1921).....	123,315	—	—	—
Estimated Population Mid- year, 1926.....	125,400	—	—	—
Area in Acres.....	7059	—	—	—
Birth Rate per 1,000.....	16.06	17.8	18.2	17.6
General Death Rate per 1,000	12.78	11.6	11.6	10.6
Deaths of Infants under One Year per 1,000 Births...	81.9	70	73	67
Death Rate from Seven Prin- cipal Zymotic Diseases...	0.40	—	—	—
Death Rate from Phthisis (Pulmonary Consumption) .	0.56	—	—	—
Death Rate from all other Tubercular Diseases.....	0.18	—	—	—

(1) Calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1926.

(2) Including London (populations exceeding 50,000 to the middle of 1925).

(3) Populations from 20,000 to 50,000 to the middle of 1925.

Rateable Value (1926).....	£782,084
Sum represented by a penny rate for Borough Rate purposes (estimated 1926).....	£3,000
Number of inhabited houses (1921).....	30,160
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921).....	30,225

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total.	M.	F.
Births : Legitimate..	1926 .	965 .	961
Illegitimate.	88 .	51 .	37
Deaths.....	1602 .	775 .	827

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth :—

From sepsis.....	2
From other causes.....	8

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate 73.2. Illegitimate 159.1. Total 81.9.

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	25
„ Whooping Cough (all ages).....	5
„ Diarrhœa (under two years of age).....	4

PART I.

Health and Housing.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The rivers Goyt and Tame unite at Tiviot Dale to form the river Mersey and the Borough is situated on both the Lancashire and Cheshire sides of this river. In the immediate vicinity of the Mersey stands the old part of Stockport around which there has grown a large industrial city. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Doubling, Hat Manufacture, Engineering, Brewing, Jam Making, Confectionery and allied trades.

For the most part the people are housed in dwellings of the cottage type, "two up and two down," placed in long rows. Dwellings of this type are universal in the industrial areas of the North of England and are the result of the rapid rise of Industrialism which occurred some sixty years ago. The lack of adequate town-planning schemes in those early days of the town's growth and development is responsible for many of the defects which are apparent to-day. In the older parts of the town factories and dwellinghouses are in close proximity to each other and over the central area of the town there hangs a cloud of smoke from industrial and domestic chimneys.

Stockport, however, has many amenities. It is well provided with residential areas and with open spaces and playing fields. Its facilities for rail and road transport are good. Sites are available for new works and for extension of existing factories, and the rates levied in the town are comparatively low.

The industries of the area are so many and varied that one is unable to single out any particular industrial process as having a marked effect on the health of the inhabitants as a whole.

The population of Stockport at the 1921 Census was 123,315, a figure which was subsequently amended to 125,500.

The population at the middle of 1926, as estimated by the Registrar-General, is 125,400.

The Census figures on the last five occasions were as follows :—

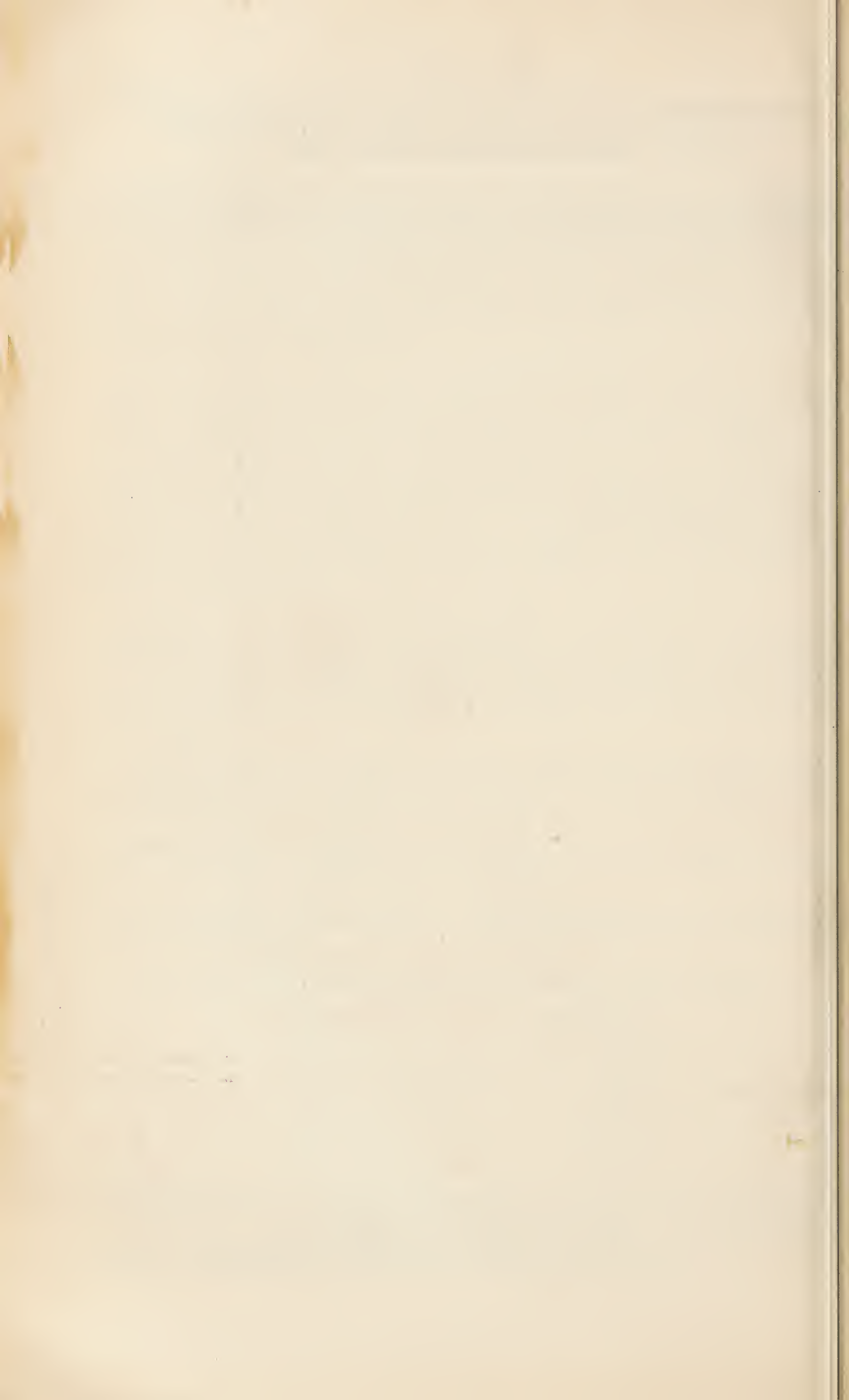
<i>Year.</i>	<i>Population.</i>
1881.....	59,553
1891.....	70,263
1901.....	78,897
1911.....	108,693
1921.....	123,315

The area of the Borough is 7,059 acres, and the density of population, as calculated on the estimate of the total population, is 17.76 persons per acre, varying from 98.49 in St. Thomas's Ward to 6.73 in Heaton Norris South Ward.

Chart showing the Annual Birth-rate per thousand of the population
and the Infant Mortality Rate per cent. of Registered Births,
for the past 26 years (1901—1926.)



Birth-rate indicated by Black lines.
Infant Mortality Rate Indicated by Red lines.



The number of new houses completed during the year 1926 was 335, as compared to nil during the years 1918 and 1919, 24 in 1920, 131 in 1921, 71 in 1922, 176 in 1923, 241 in 1924, and 405 in 1925. Five were erected in 1917, 53 in 1916, 127 in 1915, and 290 in 1914. During the previous five years the number of new houses erected was 2,141.

The number of houses in course of building at the end of the year was 176.

The following table shows the distribution and density of the population in the various districts:—

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated total Popu- lation</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>	<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated total Popu- lation</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>
Lancashire Hill.	145	5705	39.34	St. Thomas's..	53	5220	98.49
Heaton Lane ..	234	6110	26.11	Hempshaw L'e	146	5685	38.94
Old Road.....	114	5960	52.28	Cale Green....	145	6455	44.52
Portwood.....	324	8120	25.06	Heaviley.....	1115	11070	9.93
St. Mary's.....	91	2960	32.53	Reddish North.	786	9690	12.33
Vernon.....	427	6440	15.08	Reddish South	755	6035	7.91
Spring Bank...	81	4290	53.0	Heaton Nor'sN	711	5030	7.07
Hollywood.....	346	9030	26.10	Heaton Nor's S	863	5810	6.73
Edgeley.....	331	11020	33.29				
Shaw Heath...	392	10770	27.50	Whole Borough	7059	125400	17.76

Births.

The corrected number of births registered in the Borough during the year was 2,014, of which 1,016 were males and 998 females.

The birth-rate per thousand of the population was equal to 16.06, which is a decrease on the rate of last year.

The highest birth-rate occurred in St. Mary's Ward, namely, 19.60, while the lowest recorded was in Heaton Norris North Ward, namely, 8.35.

Illegitimacy.

During the year there were 88 illegitimate births registered belonging to the Borough, as compared with 104 in 1925. This gives an illegitimate birth-rate of 43.69 per thousand births registered, as compared with 50.02 in 1925.

The infantile mortality rate amongst illegitimate children is 159 per thousand illegitimate births.

The following table shows the comparison between the death-rates of illegitimate children and others registered in the Borough during the past ten years :--

Year	Esti- mated popula- tion.	Births.		Illegitimate. Births.		Total deaths under 1 year of age	Infan- tile mor- tality per 1000 births.	Deaths of illegiti- mates under 1 year of age.	Illegiti- mate infantile mortality per 1000 illegiti- mate births.
		Legit- imate	Illegit- imate	to 1000 living	to 1000 births				
1917	124761	1797	96	0.77	50.71	181	95.6	20	208.3
1918	129352	1690	100	0.77	55.87	201	112.3	21	210.0
1919	130868	1847	123	0.94	62.44	194	98.5	22	178.8
1920	130635	2763	138	1.05	47.57	282	97.2	26	188.4
1921	125500	2435	129	1.03	50.31	233	90.8	18	139.5
1922	125800	2087	104	0.83	47.47	168	76.7	10	96.2
1923	125700	2121	95	0.76	42.87	203	91.6	25	263.2
1924	126000	1969	94	0.75	45.56	180	87.3	11	117.0
1925	125900	1975	104	0.83	50.02	202	97.2	20	192.3
1926	125400	1926	88	0.70	43.69	165	81.9	14	159.1

Marriages.

The number of marriages solemnised during the year 1926 was 936, or 114 less than in 1925. The marriage-rate per thousand persons living being 14.9. This figure is higher than the rate for the country generally, which was 14.3.

Of the 936 marriages 474 were solemnised according to the rites of the Established Church, 116 under Roman Catholic rites, 3 at the Jewish Synagogue, 166 according to the rites of other religious denominations, and 177 at the Registrar's Office.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of Marriages.</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Living.</i>	<i>Rate for England and Wales.</i>
1917	802	12.8	13.8
1918	883	13.7	15.3
1919	1345	20.6	19.7
1920	1464	22.4	20.2
1921	1165	18.6	16.9
1922	1079	17.2	15.8
1923	1008	16.0	18.0
1924	1094	17.4	15.3
1925	1050	16.7	15.2
1926	936	14.9	14.3

Deaths.

The corrected number of deaths recorded in the Borough during the year 1926 was 1,602, namely:—775 males and 827 females.

The death-rate per thousand of the estimated population was 12.78.

COMPARATIVE MORTALITY DURING LAST DECENNIUM.

Herein are set out some of the principal causes of death in the Borough for the past ten years:—

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>									
	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
<i>Seven Chief Zymotics...</i>	60	80	40	115	66	67	44	64	62	50
Smallpox.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever.....	2	3	6	7	5	4	1	5	6	7
Diphtheria.....	7	9	9	30	20	18	14	5	3	7
“Fevers”—Typhoid and Continued....	3	1	3	2	3	1	..	2	..	..
Measles.....	17	15	1	41	1	19	9	42	4	25
Whooping Cough....	6	30	8	25	9	22	12	6	41	5
Diarrhœa.....	25	22	13	10	28	3	8	4	8	6
Influenza.....	5	351	124	23	20	53	20	33	19	25
Lung Diseases (includ- ing Phthisis).....	428	503	563	483	413	527	481	559	501	391
Heart Disease.....	184	222	300	296	324	364	367	374	400	420
Injury.....	35	31	48	45	35	30	31	43	58	33

TABLE SHOWING SUMMARY OF VITAL AND MORTAL
STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH.

	No. of Deaths.
Lung Diseases (excluding Phthisis).....	321
Phthisis.....	70
Other Tubercular Diseases.....	22
Preventable Diseases (excluding Tubercular Diseases).....	93
Diseases of Circulatory System (Heart, &c.).....	420
„ Nervous System.....	54
„ Digestive System.....	91
„ Kidneys.....	81
Debility and Wasting, etc., in Infants.....	10
Old Age.....	43
Cancer.....	181
Accidents.....	33
Suicides.....	18
All other Diseases.....	165

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Birth-rate.</i>	<i>Nett Death-rate.</i>	<i>Zymotic Death-rate.</i>	<i>Infant Mortality.</i>
1905	27.13	18.22	2.20	168
1906	26.95	21.07	3.27	186
1907	27.03	19.02	1.76	158
1908	27.94	19.99	2.99	171
1909	26.33	17.96	1.73	132
1910	25.60	17.03	1.63	137
1911	23.33	17.38	2.73	172
1912	22.75	16.02	1.42	109
1913	23.17	16.64	1.85	146
1914	21.64	15.10	1.18	124
1915	19.32	16.69	1.59	127
1916	17.66	15.42	1.49	121
1917	15.17	13.18	0.54	96
1918	13.84	18.29	0.69	112
1919	15.05	13.33	0.32	98
1920	22.20	12.87	0.88	97
1921	20.43	12.16	0.53	91
1922	17.42	13.37	0.53	77
1923	17.63	12.66	0.35	92
1924	16.37	13.86	0.51	87
1925	16.51	13.94	0.49	97
1926	16.06	12.78	0.40	82

Uncertified Deaths and Inquests.

During the year there were 115 deaths registered in the Borough in which the cause of death was not certified by any medical practitioner. In 113 of these cases an inquest was held, and the verdicts found by the Coroner's juries may be summarised as follows :—

1.—NATURAL CAUSES.

Heart Disease.....	22	Bronchitis.....	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage.....	3	Pneumonia.....	1
Nephritis.....	5	Pleurisy.....	1
Tubercular Peritonitis.....	1	Erysipelas.....	1
Peritonitis.....	1	Convulsions.....	1
Cancer.....	2	Other Natural Causes.....	6

2.—BY ACCIDENT OR NEGLIGENCE.

In Vehicular Traffic.....	15	Falls.....	5
By Railway.....	2	Gas Poisoning.....	8
By Drowning.....	2	Fractures.....	3
Burns and Scalds.....	4	Other Injuries.....	3

3.—SUICIDE.

By Hanging and Strangulation.....	5	By Gas Poisoning.....	3
„ Cut or Stab.....	3	„ Poison.....	3
„ Drowning.....	4	„ Precipitation from Elevated Places.....	1
„ Railway.....	1		

4.—HOMICIDE.

Gas Poisoning.....	1	Fractured Skull.....	1
Drowning.....	2		

Vital Statistics of whole Borough during 1926, and previous years.—Name of District, STOCKPORT.

YEAR.	Total Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un- corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1917	124,761	1882	1893	15.17	1477	13.19	77	75	181	96	1475	13.18
1918	129,352	1780	1790	13.84	2115	18.32	100	96	201	112	2111	18.29
1919	130,868	1956	1970	15.05	1694	13.48	111	92	194	98	1675	13.33
1920	130,635	2888	2901	22.20	1680	12.86	101	102	282	97	1681	12.87
1921	125,500	2558	2564	20.43	1548	12.33	91	39	233	91	1526	12.16
1922	125,800	2195	2191	17.42	1687	13.41	85	80	168	77	1682	13.37
1923	125,700	2206	2216	17.63	1639	13.04	139	91	203	92	1591	12.66
1924	126,000	2056	2063	16.37	1791	14.21	134	89	180	87	1746	13.86
1925	125,900	2074	2079	16.51	1805	14.43	152	91	202	97	1744	13.94
1926	125,400	2019	2014	16.06	1660	13.24	161	103	165	82	1602	12.78

YEAR 1926.

Total population at all ages, 125,500 at Census of 1921. Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 7,059.

Private families or separate occupiers, 30,225, at Census of 1921.

SUMMARY OF THE VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH AND EACH OF ITS WARDS FOR THE YEAR 1926.

WARD	Acreage.	Estimated Population.	Persons per acre.	No. of Births registered.	Birth rate.	Nett deaths *	Nett Death rate.	No. of deaths under 1 year of age *	Infant mortality rate per 1000 births.	No. of deaths from 7 principal Zymotic diseases†	Zymotic Death rate per 1000.	Zymotic death rate per 1000 (excluding Diarrhoea)	No. of deaths from Diarrhoea.	Death rate from Diarrhoea per 1000.	No. of deaths from P'thisis.	Death rate from P'thisis per 1000.	No. of deaths from other Tubercular diseases.	Death rate from other Tubercular diseases per 1000.	No. of deaths from Other Lung Diseases.	Death rate from Other Lung Diseases per 1000.
LANCASHIRE HILL	145	5,705	39.34	M. 36 F. 58 94	16.48	60	10.52	9	96	5	0.88	0.88	...	...	3	0.53	...	...	11	1.93
HEATON LANE ...	234	6,110	26.11	62 56 118	19.31	94	15.38	8	68	3	0.49	0.49	...	...	4	0.65	1	0.16	23	3.76
OLD ROAD ...	114	5,960	52.28	46 50 96	16.11	86	14.43	6	62	...	...	...	...	...	3	0.50	...	...	31	5.20
PORTWOOD ...	324	8,120	25.06	71 75 146	17.98	124	15.27	15	103	13	1.60	1.48	1	0.12	7	0.86	4	0.49	23	2.83
ST. MARY'S ...	91	2,960	32.53	32 26 58	19.60	49	16.55	4	69	3	1.01	1.01	...	...	6	2.03	1	0.34	11	3.72
VERNON ...	427	6,440	15.08	64 53 117	18.17	63	9.78	8	68	2	0.31	0.31	...	...	4	0.62	1	0.16	15	2.33
SPRING BANK ...	81	4,290	53.0	41 42 83	19.35	55	12.82	12	145	3	0.70	0.70	...	...	1	0.23	...	...	12	2.80
HOLLYWOOD...	346	9,030	26.10	90 77 167	18.50	107	11.85	21	126	3	0.33	0.22	1	0.11	9	1.0	1	0.11	22	2.44
EDGELEY ...	331	11,020	33.29	74 70 144	13.07	112	10.11	11	76	5	0.45	0.36	1	0.09	7	0.64	2	0.18	16	1.45
SHAW HEATH ...	392	10,770	27.50	77 68 145	13.46	111	10.31	8	55	2	0.19	0.19	...	...	3	0.28	1	0.09	23	2.14
ST. THOMAS'S ...	53	5,220	98.49	49 50 99	18.97	76	14.56	9	91	1	0.20	0.20	...	...	4	0.77	...	...	16	3.07
HEMPSHAW LANE	146	5,685	38.94	43 50 93	16.36	92	16.18	9	97	1	0.18	...	1	0.18	6	1.06	2	0.35	13	2.29
CALE GREEN ...	145	6,455	44.52	47 46 93	14.41	96	14.87	4	43	1	0.15	0.15	...	...	1	0.15	2	0.31	19	2.94
HEAVILEY ...	1115	11,070	9.93	99 84 183	16.58	158	14.27	13	71	1	0.09	0.09	...	...	6	0.54	4	0.36	25	2.26
REDDISH NORTH...	786	9,690	12.33	67 89 156	16.10	111	11.46	20	128	2	0.21	0.10	1	0.10	4	0.41	1	0.10	24	2.48
REDDISH SOUTH...	755	6,035	7.91	61 56 117	19.39	68	11.27	4	34	2	0.35	0.35	...	...	...	...	1	0.17	18	2.98
HEATON NORRIS N.	711	5,030	7.07	26 16 42	8.35	67	13.32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0.20	...	...	12	2.39
HEATON NORRIS S.	863	5,810	6.73	31 32 63	10.84	73	12.57	4	63	3	0.52	0.34	1	0.17	1	0.17	1	0.17	7	1.20
STOCKPORT BOROUGH	7059	125,400	17.76	1016 998 2014	16.06	M 775 F 827 1602	M 89 F 76 165	M 29 F 21 50	81.9	M 3 F 21 50	0.40	0.35	M 3 F 3 6	0.05	M 44 F 26 70	0.56	M 11 F 11 22	0.18	M 159 F 162 321	2.56

* Deaths of Stockport residents in the Union Hospital, Union Workhouse, Infirmary, and Isolation Hospital are here referred to the Wards in which they lived. Deaths within the Borough of Non-residents from out-townships are excluded.

† The "Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases" are Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Fever (typhus, typhoid and continued), and Diarrhoea. ‡ Registrar General's estimate.

NOTE.—In regard to the reduced population from 125,900 in 1925 to 125,400 in 1926, the Registrar General says:—The estimated population has been "derived from the 1921 Census population (corrected where necessary to give a closer approximation to the resident population of that year as described in the Registrar General's Statistical Review for 1921) after allowance for the births, deaths and migration which occurred between the Census date and the 30th June last."

SUMMARY OF THE VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS

WARD	Area	Popu- lation	Per- son	No. of Births registered	Per- cent
REDDISH SOUTH	152	6,035	7.91	—	—
REDDISH NORTH	158	6,800	13.33	—	—
HEAVILLY	1113	11,070	2.33	—	—
CALE GREEN	145	6,155	44.52	—	—
HEMPSHAW LANE	116	2,687	35.34	—	—
ST. THOMAS'S	98	5,330	28.48	—	—
SHAW HEATH	323	10,770	25.90	—	—
EDGELY	331	11,920	22.82	—	—
HOLLYWOOD	370	2,030	26.10	—	—
SPRING BANK	81	4,320	98.0	—	—
VERNON	437	6,410	12.08	—	—
ST. MARK'S	81	2,960	32.98	—	—
FORTWOOD	331	2,120	23.00	—	—
OLIVE ROAD	114	2,900	23.22	—	—
HEATON LANE	334	6,110	26.11	—	—
LANCASHIRE HILL	145	2,700	23.34	—	—

Mortality Statistics.

The Corrected Nett Death-Rate for the Borough as a whole was 12.78 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The principal causes of death during 1926 were diseases of the Circulatory System (Heart, etc.), diseases of the Lungs and Cancer. Climatic conditions undoubtedly play an important part in causing the high incidence rate of chest diseases which obtains locally. Long spells of cold and damp weather, and the pollution of the atmosphere by smoke and by other products of the incomplete combustion of raw coal, reduce our powers of resistance to infection and render us susceptible to attacks of such diseases as Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia, and Rheumatism.

Diseases of the Respiratory System, e.g., Bronchitis and Broncho-pneumonia are of frequent occurrence as complications of such diseases as Measles and Whooping Cough and are of grave import. In the industrial centres of the North of England, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Heart Disease may well be ranked with Phthisis as the "Captains of the men of Death."

Cancer continues to exact a heavy toll in human suffering and misery and, in Stockport in 1926, 181 deaths were ascribed to it. Of these 181 fatal cases, 71 were males and 110 females. The age incidence of the cases was as follows :—

Years.	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and over.
Number	3	11	46	56	65

The situation of the lesion in these cases may be summarised thus :—

Cancer of Mouth and Digestive System.....	110 Cases.
„ Female Genital Organs.....	29 „
„ Breast.....	15 „
„ Skin.....	5 „
„ Other Organs.....	22 „
Total.....	181 „

The death-rate from Cancer in 1926 was 1.44 per thousand of the population as compared with 1.46 for the year 1925.

Cancer essentially affects individuals beyond middle-life and in one or other of its many forms may attack almost any organ of the body.

In spite of careful scientific investigation and painstaking research conducted in many lands the cause of Cancer still remains obscure. If detected early it is curable by surgical measures, but in what is often at first a painless disease it is difficult for the patient to realise the necessity for surgical aid.

Increasing attention is being paid to the all important question of Cancer Research and the Imperial Cancer Research Commission affords valuable aid in the co-ordination of research work in the investigation of the pre-disposing and exciting causes of Cancer. During the year under review the Ministry of Health has issued Circular 716 "Memorandum on Cancer of the Breast." The present position of research upon the subject of Cancer is carefully reviewed in this and previous publications and the necessity for early diagnosis and treatment is emphasised.

Mortality in Different Wards.

The Corrected Net Death-rate for the Borough as a whole was 12.78 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The highest Ward Death-rate occurred in St. Mary's Ward, namely, 16.55, whilst the lowest was recorded in Vernon Ward with 9.78.

The Zymotic Death-rate for the whole Borough was .40. This Rate is calculated on the number of deaths from the following diseases:— Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Typhoid Fever, and Diarrhoea, and the total number of deaths from these diseases was 50.

Phthisis Death-rate. The Death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis or consumption of the lungs, for the whole of the Borough, was .56 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with .82 for 1925, and the total number of deaths recorded was 70, as compared with 104 for 1925, 110 for 1924, and 119 for 1923.

The highest Death-rate occurred in St. Mary's Ward, namely, 2.03 per 1,000 of the population.

Table showing Deaths from All Causes belonging to the County Borough of Stockport during the year 1926, classified according to Diseases and Ages. (This Table includes deaths of "Residents" occurring in other districts, and excludes deaths of "Non-Residents," in accordance with the Rules of the Registrar-General.)

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													
	M.	F.		-1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over
I.																	
ZYMOTIC DISEASES :—																	
Measles.....	15	10	25	9	11	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	6	1	6
Scarlet Fever.....	4	3	7	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Influenza, Epidemic.....	10	15	25	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough.....	3	2	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria.....	4	3	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Enteric Fever.....	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diarrhæa, Dysentery.....	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis..	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
II.																	
Syphilis.....	3	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gonorrhœa.....	3	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
III.																	
SEPTIC DISEASES :—																	
Erysipelas.....	3	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Fever.....	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pyæmia, Septicæmia.....	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cellulitis.....	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
IV.																	
Remittent Fever.....	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rheumatic Fever.....	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
V.																	
TUBERCULAR DISEASES :—																	
Tuberculosis of Brain or Meninges	3	3	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis of Lungs.....	44	26	70	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis of Intestines.....	3	4	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis, General.....	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis, other forms.....	4	3	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													
	M.	F.		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 & over	
				-1													
XIII.	DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM :—																
	2	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
	1	..	1	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
	6	1	7	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	7	2	9	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	11	13	24	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	7	6	13	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	8	7	15	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	..	1	1	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	4	..	4	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	5	2	7	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	2	5	7	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	..	3	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	..	3	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
XV.	DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM :—																
	8	9	17	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	3	4	4	2	..
	24	40	64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	3	20	31	..
	12	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	10	..
	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XVI.	1	1	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
XVII.	DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH CHILD-BIRTH :—																
	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	..	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
	..	5	5	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	..	..

DISEASES CLASSIFIED.	SEX.		Totals.	AGES.													65 & over
	M.	F.		-1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	
XVIII. Arthritis, Ostitis, Periostitis..... Other diseases of Osseous System...	1 1	2 ..	3 1	1 ..	1 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	65 & over
XIX. Ulcer..... Eczema..... Pemphigus..... Other Diseases of Integumentary System.....	1 .. 1 1	.. 2 1 ..	1 2 2 1	.. 1 2 ..	.. .. .. 1	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	1	1	1
XX. ACCIDENTS :— In Vehicular Traffic..... On Railways..... Burns and Scalds..... Poisons..... Drowning..... Falls from a height..... Falls not stated..... Other Accidents.....	6 1 1 4 4 1 4 1	3 .. 2 3 .. 2 1 ..	9 1 3 7 4 3 5 1	.. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. 1 .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. 1 .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. 1 .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. 1	1 1 .. 1 .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. 1 .. ..	.. 1 1 .. ..	.. .. 1 1	1 .. 1 1 2 1	1 .. 3 .. 1	4
XXI. HOMICIDE :— Gas Pisoning..... Drowning..... Fractured Skull .....	.. 2 1	1	1 2 1	.. 1 ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. 1 ..	1 .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. 1..	......	......	..
XXII. SUICIDES :— By Poison..... By Hanging and Strangulation... By Drowning..... By Cut or Stab..... By Precipitation from Elevated Places..... By Railway..... Other and Ill-defined Diseases....	3 4 2 1 .. 1 2	1 2 3 1 ..	4 6 5 1 .. 1 1 3	.. .. .. .. .. .. 3	.. .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. ..	1 .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. ..	1 1 .. .. .. ..	.. 1 .. .. .. .. ..	.. 2 2 1 .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. .. .. ..	5 1 1
XXIII. Totals.....	775	827	1602	165	42	10	14	11	24	9	21	30	62	108	223	287	596

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority.

A. (1)—**Fever Hospital.**—Your Council maintains the Borough Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane, Stockport, at which there is accommodation for 78 patients suffering from Acute Infectious Disease. During the year under review the accommodation at your Isolation Hospital was taxed to its uttermost in consequence of an epidemic of Scarlet Fever.

(2)—**Smallpox Hospital.**—Your Council retains four beds at the Hyde Borough Smallpox Hospital. In the event of a serious epidemic of Smallpox in Stockport, it would be necessary to utilise Whitehill Hospital for the purpose of isolating cases of this disease. At Whitehill Hospital there is normally accommodation for twenty-six patients.

B. (1) **Tuberculosis.**—At Whitehill Hospital your Council provides, with the consent of the Ministry of Health, accommodation for 26 cases of Tuberculosis (of both sexes). This institution is utilised mainly for the treatment of advanced cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Institutional provision for Tuberculosis cases is secured for Stockport patients in Hospitals and Sanatoria elsewhere as follows :—

- (a) Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Burntwood—16 beds.
- (b) Meathop Sanatorium, Grange-over-Sands—10 beds.
- (c) Wensleydale Sanatorium, Aysgarth, Yorkshire—7 beds.
- (d) Barrowmore Hall Training Colony, Chester. } For Ex-Servicemen
- (e) Preston Hall Training Colony, Kent. } as required.
- (f) Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry—3 beds.
- (g) Special School, West Kirby (George Fearn Trust)—1 bed.
- (h) Ormerod Home, St. Annes-on-Sea (pre-tubercular children)—10 beds.

The last mentioned is under the administration of the George Fearn Trust to which the Corporation subscribe the sum of £150 per annum.

A certain number of cases of Tuberculosis are treated by the Board of Guardians at their Institution at Stepping Hill Hospital.

Cases of tuberculosis of the skin are treated at the Manchester and Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases under arrangements made by the Corporation with the Hospital Board.

B. (2) **Maternity.**—Your Council maintains the Municipal Maternity Hospital at Mile End Hall, Stockport, with accommodation for 16 mothers and 16 babies.

Accommodation is provided by the Stockport Board of Guardians for maternity cases in a wing of the Board's Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport.

(3) **Children.**—There is no Hospital within the area of the County Borough of Stockport used exclusively for children.

(4) Other.

- (a) The Stockport Infirmary provides accommodation for 129 Medical and Surgical cases and has a well equipped and adequately staffed Out-Patient Department, with Specialist Services in the various branches of medical and surgical work.
- (b) The Poor Law Infirmary, Stepping Hill, Stockport, is maintained by the Stockport Board of Guardians and provides 450 beds for the reception and treatment of cases sent by the Union's Medical Officers.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, &c.

HOUSE OF REFUGE.—This Home, which is situated in Chatham Street, Stockport, deals with unmarried mothers and others who are brought to the notice of the officers of the Institution either by the Poor Law Authorities or from private sources.

STOCKPORT POLICE AID ASSOCIATION.—The object of this Association is to provide necessitous children with clothing. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have placed at the Association's disposal the Great Portwood Street Maternity and Child Welfare Centre which is used occasionally for the storage and the distribution of the clothing.

BARNES' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—The situation of this Industrial School for Boys is in the Heaton Mersey portion of the Borough.

ALICE BRIGGS HOME (OPEN-AIR SCHOOL).—This Home, which is in close proximity to the Barnes' Home Industrial School, is entirely under the control of the Manchester Corporation.

COTTAGE HOMES.—Various homes for destitute children are provided by the Stockport Board of Guardians.

Ambulance Arrangements.

The Borough is well provided with ambulances, the Corporation having at their disposal five motor ambulances, and the Poor Law Guardians one motor ambulance.

INFECTIOUS CASES.—Two of the ambulances belonging to the Corporation are stationed at the Infectious Diseases Hospital and are used solely for the removal of infectious cases and bedding.

NON-INFECTIOUS CASES AND ACCIDENT CASES.—The three other Corporation ambulances are stationed at the Fire Station and are available for accident cases and for the removal of patients to Hospital in emergencies. In the latter cases a fee is charged which can be remitted with the sanction of the Watch Committee if the patient is not in a position to pay. The motor ambulance provided by the Poor Law Authorities is used in connection with the conveyance of patients to the Stepping Hill Poor Law Hospital.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

<i>Name and Situation.</i>	<i>By Whom Provided.</i>
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 125, Gt. Portwood Street, Stockport.	Town Council.
Ante-natal Clinic, 125, Gt. Portwood Street, Stockport.....	”
School for Mothers & Babies’ Welcome, Churchgate House, Stockport.....	Stockport School for Mothers & Babies’ Welcome.
Branch : Stanhope Street, Reddish..	” ”
Central School Clinic, 108, Wellington Road South, Stockport.....	Town Council.
Branch Clinic at Reddish.....	
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.....	”
Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.....	”

Professional Nursing in the Home.

The Stockport Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association.
(President, Sir Thomas Rowbotham, J.P.).

The Headquarters of the District Nursing Department of this Association known as the Barnsley Home for Nurses, is situated in Greek Street, Stockport. The Staff consists of a Matron and seven Nurses. The nursing of all classes of sickness is undertaken with the exception of certain cases of infectious disease, i.e., Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, etc. Arrangements have been made by your Council with the Committee of the Association for the provision of home nursing facilities in cases of Measles, Puerperal Fever, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Pemphigus Neonatorum on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. For this purpose your Council made a financial grant of £30 during the year under review.

Arrangements have been made with the Stockport Insurance Committee for the nursing of sick insured persons approved of by the Committee at a rate of 1/- per visit.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Matron of the Barnsley Home for her kindly consideration at all times and for her promptitude in attending to the cases referred to her by this Department. The excellent

work carried out in the homes of the people by the members of the Local District Nursing Association is of inestimable value to the patients and is much appreciated by the Doctors in the town.

In connection with the Stockport Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association there is the Annie Walthew Nursing Home, Meadow Bank, Didsbury Road, Stockport, in which there is accommodation for Maternity, Surgical, and Medical Cases. Your Medical Officer of Health has the honour to be a member of the Sub-Committee responsible for the management of this Home.

Midwives. Full particulars of the arrangements of the District Midwifery Service are given in the section of the report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare.

Chemical Work. The Public Analyst for Stockport is Mr. James P. Shenton, and details of the results of his analyses are given in tabular form in the section of this report dealing with Food and Drugs.

Local Powers Relating to Public Health.

(1) Acts of Parliament adopted by the Council.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Housing of the Working-Classes Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

Baths and Washhouses Acts, 1846 to 1899.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

(2) Local Acts.

Stockport Corporation Act, 1899.

Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.

(3) Byelaws.

Regulation of Markets, 1862.

Prevention of Nuisances, 1865.

Cleansing Footways, Privies, &c., 1865.

Regulation of Public Baths, 1886.

Common Lodging Houses, 1900.

Houses Let in Lodgings, 1900.

Tents, Vans, &c., used for Human Habitation, 1902.

For the good rule and government of the Borough, and for the Prevention of Nuisances, 1903.

Slaughter Houses, 1906.

New Streets and Buildings, 1913.

Water, 1915.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. The Stockport Water Area covers about $80\frac{1}{2}$ square miles and has a population of 193,000. The average daily consumption of water for this area during 1926 was 6,055,000 gallons. The water was analysed at intervals and was found to be satisfactory.

During the year under review there was no material change in the sources of supply, particulars of which are as follows :—

<i>Site.</i>		<i>Reservoir.</i>		<i>Capacity.</i>
Disley	..	Horse Coppice Reservoir	..	73,000,000 gallons
„	..	Bollinhurst Reservoir	..	85,000,000 „
Hayfield	..	Kinder Reservoir	..	515,500,000 „
Wilmslow	..	Two Boreholes	..	Supply 750,000 per day.

By agreement a total quantity of about 1,500,000 gallons of water per day is available from the Manchester Corporation Longdendale Works.

Rivers and Streams. During the year a few instances of pollution of rivers and streams have been discovered by the Inspectors during the course of their routine work and the necessary action has been taken to have the defects remedied. After a careful survey had been made by your Chief Inspector of the source and course of the Tin Brook, with special reference to the question of the pollution of the brook with sewage, trade effluents, etc., a Sub-Committee of the Health Committee inspected the brook and decided to adopt all possible measures to free this brook from pollution. The necessary action is being taken by the officials of the Department with the individuals and firms concerned and it is hoped that considerable improvement in the condition of this brook will be secured in the very near future.

Drainage and Sewerage. The routine work of extension of drainage and sewerage rendered necessary by the erection of new houses has been proceeded with. In addition, the many schemes of re-drainage in consequence of the conversion of a very large number of privies to water-closets have received the careful attention of this Department. Further particulars of these conversions, the supervision of which has been admirably carried out by the Chief Inspector and his staff of District Inspectors during the year 1926, are given in a separate section of this report, vide page 29.

Closet Accommodation. The question of the conversion of closets from conservancy systems to the water-carriage system has received special attention from the Health Department during the year under review. The results of this action are highly satisfactory and no less than 820 water-closets with cistern flush have been provided during the year. This gigantic task has thrown a very heavy burden of work upon Mr. Butler, your Chief Inspector, and upon your District Inspectorial Staff. I would

take this opportunity of thanking them for the efficiency and tact they have all displayed in carrying out these onerous duties and of congratulating them upon the results achieved.

The work of conversion of the closet accommodation from that insanitary abomination, the privy midden, to the hygienic water-closet has been steadily pursued throughout the year and in only a few instances has it been necessary for the Department to carry out the work in consequence of default on the part of the owners.

During 1926, 619 Privies were converted to W.Cs. The numbers of conversions of this nature carried out in recent years are as follows :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of Privies converted to Water-Closets.</i>
1922.....	127
1923.....	195
1924.....	238
1925.....	200
1926.....	619

During the year under review, 86 Pail Closets and 30 Waste-Water Closets were converted to W.Cs., and 85 additional W.Cs. were provided.

820 W.Cs. were thus provided during the year.

Full details of this work are given in the following table :—

Scavenging. During the year there have been no material alterations in the methods of scavenging or refuse disposal, which are carried out by the Cleansing Department of the Corporation. I understand that experiments are about to be made locally upon a new method of stacking refuse in the town's tips, and I hope to be able to report later upon the results of these experiments. The substitution of dustbins for the large number of privy middens abolished during the year has meant greater rapidity and increased efficiency in the removal of domestic refuse from the properties concerned.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The routine work of sanitary inspection of the area has been efficiently carried out by your five District Sanitary Inspectors under the able supervision of your Chief Inspector, Mr. Wm. Butler, to whom I am indebted for the following statistical summary of the work of the Inspectors during 1926 :—

District Sanitary Inspectors' Work.

The following is a Summary of the Work carried out by the District Inspectors during the Year :—

	DISTRICTS.					Total
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
SPECIAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.....	76	91	40	66	35	308
INSPECTIONS MADE :—						
For Housing Purposes.....	426	201	653	289	408	1977
Re-visits during progress of work.....	589	566	580	407	523	2665
Courts and Yards.....	681	374	117	324	396	1892
Privy Middens.....	173	177	132	421	144	1047
Re-inspections to Privy Middens and work in progress respecting Conversions....	685	479	937	880	782	3763
Dry Ashpits.....	47	112	41	62	397	659
Drainage.....	468	622	575	672	441	2778
Water Closet Inspections.....	797	553	276	653	386	2665
Water Courses.....	29	—	4	3	1	37
Picture Houses.....	93	102	16	6	12	229
Miscellaneous.....	1126	553	133	1056	906	3774
Interviews with Owners, Contractors, etc., re Sanitary Alterations... . . .	214	281	91	406	281	1273
INFECTIOUS DISEASES :—						
Cases inquired into.....	270	170	368	148	80	1036
Cases removed to Hospital.....	220	152	289	125	52	838
Houses Disinfected.....	—	—	—	—	—	967
Schools and other Public Institutions Disinfected.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Out District Disinfections.....	—	—	—	—	—	27
Re-visits to Cases isolated at home....	157	37	253	87	109	643
Pneumonia cases inquired into.....	52	24	45	22	11	154
Malaria cases inquired into.....	—	2	—	—	—	2
Dysentery cases inquired into.....	—	1	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica cases inquired into.....	1	3	1	1	—	6
Cerebro-Spinal Fever cases inquired into.	—	—	—	—	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis cases inquired into..	1	—	—	—	—	1
Water Closets, etc.....	14	13	10	8	71	116
Water Closets cleansed (by Owners).....	85	62	4	41	4	196
Water Closets cleansed (by Occupiers)...	5	2	—	4	3	14
Water Closet Basins or Pedestals renewed.	72	33	30	97	34	266
Water Closet Connections repaired.....	78	26	38	105	39	286
Water Supply Pipes or Cisterns to Water Closets repaired.....	206	83	50	134	126	599
Water Courses Cleansed.....	5	—	—	—	—	5

	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Houses Cleansed, Re-papered, or Lime-washed.....	18	8	1	3	20	50
Overcrowding Abated.....	—	—	—	1	—	1
Sink Waste Pipes Renewed or Repaired..	51	76	17	66	158	368
Downspouts or Eaves Gutters Renewed or Repaired.....	201	187	253	352	399	1392
House Drains Tested.....	—	—	—	—	2	2
House Drains and Drains to Water Closets Reconstructed or Repaired.....	112	262	366	256	161	1157
New Gully Traps Fixed.....	91	142	90	170	105	598
Boilpipes and Ventilating Shafts Erected.	35	59	46	87	46	273
Yards, Courts or Passages Drained or Drains Repaired.....	131	103	20	34	56	344
Yards, Courts or Passages Paved or Repaired.....	111	208	18	72	274	683
Yards, Courts or Passages Cleansed by Occupiers.....	14	3	—	10	2	29
Animals Improperly Kept—Removed....	8	2	—	3	—	13
Accumulations Removed.....	15	44	3	4	13	79
Manure Pits Abolished.....	—	—	2	1	1	4
Notices (Informal) Served.....	104	246	248	331	192	1121
Miscellaneous Nuisances.....	152	121	33	291	103	700

The following Table gives the Statutory Notices served during the year in respect of the Districts :—

<i>Notice.</i>	DISTRICTS.					<i>Total.</i>
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	
Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875.....	3	11	6	10	1	31
Section 94, Public Health Act, 1875.....	1	—	1	—	1	3
Section 25, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905	6	11	9	10	1	37
Section 58, Stockport Corporation Act, 1899 ; and Section 23, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905.....	—	—	—	5	—	5

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. The following statistical table is compiled from the Annual Report for the year 1926 of the Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Stockport on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces :—

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted.</i>
Factories.....	74	2	—
Workshops.....	174	—	—
Workplaces.....	18	—	—
Total.....	266	2	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects.</i>			<i>Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were Instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
Want of Cleanliness.....	6	6	—	—
Other Nuisances.....	3	3	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective Sanitary Accommodation.	1	1	—	—
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouses.....	1	1	—	—
Total.....	11	11	—	—

There were no instances in which the attention of the Department was called to outwork in unwholesome premises during 1926.

266 visits of inspection were paid by your Inspectors to the various workplaces during the year.

3.—HOME WORK.

'Nature of Work	Outworkers' List. Section 107.								Outwork in unwholesome Premises, Section 108.			
	Lists received from Employers.				Number of Addresses of Out-workers received from other Councils.		Number of Addresses of Out-workers forwarded to other Councils.		Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.	
	Twice in the Year.		Once in the Year.									
	Lists.	Out-workers		Lists.	Out-workers		Con-tractors	Work-men				
		Con-tractors	Work-men		Con-tractors	Work-men						
Wearing Apparel :—	30	12	183	2	...	2	11	63	..	..	..
(1) Making, etc...												

Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises.....114

Female Out-workers.		Male Out-workers.	
NATURE OF WORK.	NO.	NATURE OF WORK.	NO.
Hat Trimming.....	84	Planking.....	1
Shirt Making.....	1	Boot and Shoe Repairing.....	1
Children's Clothing.....	1	Tailoring.....	2
Hosiery.....	1		
	—		—
	87		4
	—		—

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

7 notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect of the following matters :—

Unsuitable and Defective Sanitary Accommodation.....	1
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation.....	—
Accommodation not separate for sexes.....	—
Defective Ventilation.....	—
Limewashing W.Cs.....	6

In all instances the defects were remedied

266 visits of inspection have been made to the various workplaces during the year.

Smoke Abatement. Pollution of the atmosphere with smoke, due to the incomplete combustion of coal, is one of the most serious questions that we in the industrial areas of England have to face. It is impossible to estimate the harmful effects of a smoke-laden atmosphere upon the health of those of us who live and work in our industrial areas. For prolonged periods the health-giving rays of the Sun are cut off from us by the dense pall of smoke which hangs over our towns. This smoke, heavily charged with the products of incomplete combustion of coal, causes extensive damage to buildings and fabrics—in Manchester and Salford this has been estimated at £1 per head of the population per annum. This smoke is also responsible for much wastage of energy and materials in the extra cleaning it necessitates. It throws a heavy burden of extra work upon the long suffering and already overburdened housewife.

For the production of this smoke nuisance the works chimney and the domestic chimney are both responsible, and measures of smoke abatement must be directed against both sets of offenders. Much has been done to solve the problem of the emission of smoke from the factory chimney, but no serious attempt has been made to cope with the evil of the smoky domestic chimney. The more extensive use of gas and electricity for heating, lighting, and cooking would go far towards a solution of this problem, but there is an urgent need for the production of a cheap and efficient smokeless fuel the use of which would enable us to retain the, to us, indispensable open fire.

The routine work of Smoke Observation was interfered with during the year by the coal stoppage. However, during 1926, 41 smoke observations, each of two hours' duration, were taken of smoke from factories, and from railway engines during shunting operations. In four instances the amount of smoke emitted was excessive and four notices were sent to the owners requiring them to abate the nuisance.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations.

Bye-Laws are in operation in the Borough with regard to Common Lodging-Houses and Houses Let in Lodgings.

Common Lodging-Houses.

There are seven Common Lodging-Houses in the Borough with adequate accommodation for the needs of the district.

One application for registration was refused by your Health Committee on the grounds that the premises were unsuitable, and one application was withheld pending the completion of structural alterations to the premises.

During the year 262 visits were paid to Common Lodging-Houses.

Bakehouses.

67 visits were paid to bakehouses during the year, and the premises were generally found to be in good condition as to cleanliness.

There are three underground bakehouses remaining in the Borough.

Offensive Trades.

There are in the Borough 20 premises in which one or other of the offensive trades is carried on, and 191 visits were made to these during the year.

The premises were found to be clean and well-kept and the trades carried on in such a manner as to avoid any cause for complaint.

Fairs and Wakes. Travelling Vans.

In connection with Fairs, every caravan used as a dwelling-house was inspected and in all cases the vans were found to be in a clean condition and no sickness was discovered.

Shops Acts.

The number of shops on the Register on the 31st December, 1926, was 3,461.

The closing of shops is still regulated by the Shops (Early Closing) Act, 1920, as amended by the Shops (Early Closing) Act (1920) Amendment Act, 1921.

The work in connection with the early closing of shops is still carried out by the Watch Committee. This arrangement has been found to work extremely satisfactorily.

The Shops Inspector was also engaged as Ambulance Attendant during the year.

Poisons and Pharmacy Act.

One renewal of licence was granted during the year to a seed merchant to sell poisonous substances to which Section 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, applies, for use exclusively in connection with agriculture and horticulture, subject to his complying with the provisions of the Arsenic Act, 1851, the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and the Regulations made by Order in Council under the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

23 visits of inspection were made under the above Act and advice was given to the persons concerned as to the safest means of destruction in the various cases. It is known that some hundreds of rats were destroyed.

Schools.

There are thirty-two Public Elementary Schools in the Borough. The sanitary condition of the Schools is satisfactory and the water supply is pure and adequate.

I have drawn attention to School Hygiene in my Annual Report for 1926 upon the School Medical Service as follows :—

The plans for a new Elementary School to serve the Lancashire Hill district have been approved by the Board of Education, and building operations are expected to commence in the near future.

Considerable improvements have been made at St. John's C.E. School, Heaton Mersey, during the year. New floors have been laid in most of the classrooms. Electric lighting and central heating installations have been provided.

Stockport R.C. School. A commodious new Boys' Department has been provided at Bishop Brown's Memorial School in High Street.

Dual desks and dual tables and chairs for infants are constantly replacing the older school furniture. Blackboards and other furniture are replaced by modern forms as found necessary.

Stockport being a town area, few children bring meals to School, and most Schools have gas appliances.

Your Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer to the Education Committee and is thus able to secure close co-operation between the various Departments concerned. In this way delay is avoided in dealing with cases of infectious disease amongst our school population. Isolation of Infectious Cases, Quarantine and Supervision of Contacts, and Disinfection of Premises receive prompt attention.

During 1926 it was not found necessary to recommend School Closure for infectious disease, but School Closure was carried out in the following instances in consequence of breakdown of the heating apparatus in the Schools concerned.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

<i>School.</i>	<i>Cause of closure.</i>	<i>Percentage of children present.</i>	<i>Period of Exclusion.</i>	
			From	To
			(inclusive).	
St. Paul's C.E.....	Breakdown	—	22 Mar.	26 Mar.
(Mixed and Infants' Departments).	of			
	heating			
	apparatus			
Alexandra Park Council....	„	—	22 April	(1 day)
(Senior and Junior Departments)				
„ „	„	—	Afternoon	
			13 Oct.	19 Oct.
Wellington Road Council...	„	—	18 Oct.	19 Oct.
(Mixed and Infants' Departments)				
St. Thomas's C.E., Stock-	„	—	21 Oct.	22 Oct.
port				
(Infants' Department)				

HOUSING.

The majority of the population in the Borough are housed in dwellings of the cottage type, "two up and two down," placed in rows. In the older parts of the Borough a certain number of courtyards have been formed by the interposition of dwellings between rows of cottage property. Overcrowding exists, as elsewhere throughout the country, but no case of dangerous overcrowding has been brought to my notice during the year. 335 houses have been built during the year but there exists a serious shortage of houses. The number of houses erected by the Municipality and by private enterprise since the war has only touched the fringe of the problem, and the arrears in house-building consequent upon the war and upon the abnormal conditions of the post-war period have not been overcome.

Overcrowding is a serious matter not only for a community but also for its individual members and especially for the children. Where two or perhaps three families are huddled together in one small cottage it is impossible to rear children who will be strong and healthy in a physical, mental, or moral sense.

Where overcrowding exists it becomes exceedingly difficult to control epidemics of infectious disease.

The work of inspection for housing purposes has been ably carried out by your District Inspectors under the supervision of Mr. Butler. The policy of the Department has been to secure that wherever possible houses shall be kept by the owners in such a state as to be reasonably fit for human habitation. Only essential repairs have been insisted upon and little difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the co-operation of property owners to secure the remedying of defects.

In view of the housing shortage it is essential that as many as possible of the existing houses shall be kept in a reasonable state of repair.

The following Table summaries the statistical findings in connection with housing work during 1926 :—

HOUSING CONDITIONS. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres).....	7,059
Population (Census 1921, and estimated 1926), 125,500.....	125,400
Number of inhabited houses (1921).....	30,160
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921).....	30,225
Rateable Value.....	£782,084
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£3,000

HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).....	335
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts :—	
(1) By Local Authority.....	Nil
(2) By other Bodies or Persons.....	258

1. Unfit Dwelling-houses.

Inspection. (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..	1588
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925.....	1091
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	Nil
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	41

2. Remedy of defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....	252
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners.....	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close.....	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	} Included in previous sections.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.....	
(a) By Owners.....	
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	

C. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders.....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit.....	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	Nil

Unhealthy Areas.

On 7th September, 1926, your Medical Officer of Health made an Official Representation under the Housing Acts, 1890 to 1925, that the following area is unhealthy and that the most satisfactory method of dealing with it is by an improvement scheme, viz. : The Area No. 11 (or St. Thomas's) Ward, the boundaries of which are the South of Edward Street, the West of Middle and Higher Hillgate, the West of Hindley Street and Ward Street, the North of Charles Street, the West of Higher Hillgate, and the East of Wellington Road South from Higher Hillgate to Edward Street.

This Representation was accepted by the Council and a preliminary inspection of the Area has been made by your Housing Committee. Instructions have been issued to the various officials concerned to prepare

a Scheme and we are now awaiting the preliminary inspection of the Area by one of the Officials of the Housing Department of the Ministry of Health.

Paving, Sewering, &c.

I am indebted to H. Hamer, Esq., the Borough Surveyor, for the following information with regard to the amount of paving, sewerage, etc., carried out by his Department during 1926 :—

Back Passages paved and sewered.....	2	
Length of sewers laid.....	3118	lineal yards.
Vertical shaft ventilators closed.....	Nil	
Surface sewer ventilators closed.....	Nil	
Old sewers taken up and re-laid.....	17	lineal yards.
Cellar dwellings closed for street improvements.....	4	
Houses demolished for street improvements.....	1	
Water-closets erected in connection with new buildings	380	
Houses built during the year.....	335	
Houses in course of erection at the end of the year....	176	

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A. MILK SUPPLY.

The greater part of the milk supplied to Stockport comes from farms in Cheshire and the milk is generally of good quality.

It is of the utmost importance to secure for a community an adequate supply of pure wholesome milk, which is one of our staple articles of diet and which is indispensable for invalids and young children.

Milk makes an excellent medium for the growth of organisms of all kinds and is liable to contamination by disease producing germs. It is therefore necessary that the most scrupulous cleanliness be exercised by all those who are engaged in its production, storage, transport and distribution.

The farms and dairies in the area have been regularly inspected, and samples of milk have been examined chemically and bacteriologically at regular intervals.

Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917.

These Regulations make it an offence to sell cream containing preservative unless the jar or bottle containing the cream has a label attached declaring the amount of preservative, and in addition stating that the cream is not suitable for infants and invalids.

There are no premises in the Borough where cream is prepared and bottled for sale. Ten samples of cream were taken during the year, all of which came within the prescribed limits as regards preservatives.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders.

Your Inspector has made 321 visits of inspection to these places during the year when the cattle were inspected and observations as to general cleanliness were made. Minor repairs to drains, ventilators, etc., have been carried out in several instances.

Ten tuberculous animals were surrendered and destroyed.

In seven instances when infectious disease was reported in connection with Milk Purveyors the necessary isolation, disinfection, etc., was promptly carried out.

592 visits have been made to the various Milkshops.

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922.

Twelve samples of milk have been submitted for bacteriological examination, representing the mixed milk from ten farms. In one instance the sample contained tubercle bacilli. The case was followed up with the result that two cows were surrendered and destroyed. Four samples of milk were submitted for bacterial count with satisfactory results.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

On page 89 is found a statement of the administration of the Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919, with details as to the quantity of milk supplied to infants and to expectant and nursing mothers, in necessitous cases, either free or at less than cost price.

B. MEAT, &c.

There are twenty-nine Slaughter-houses in the Borough to which 764 visits of inspection have been made, and it was found necessary to serve notices to cleanse, repair drains, etc., in five instances.

There is no Public Abattoir in the Borough. Inspection is carried out by the Food Inspector at the private slaughter-houses.

The various shops where food is stored, premises where sausages, etc., are made, and the Market, have been regularly visited. The following is a summary of the unsound food dealt with by your Inspector and subsequently destroyed :—

45 carcasses of Beef.	3 boxes of Kippers.
7 Pigs.	9 Stone of Hake.
23 Sheep.	14 Stone of Codfish.
12 sets of Beasts' offal.	21 boxes of Dates.
8 hampers of Heads and Plucks.	568 tins of Fruit, Fish, etc.
15 Chickens.	

C. ADULTERATION, &c.**Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.**

Eleven samples have been found to be adulterated as compared with 17 in the previous year.

Of the 361 samples submitted for analysis, 226 were samples of milk, and of these eight were found to be adulterated.

The following tables show the percentage of adulteration, as compared with other years, and the Analyst's reports thereon :—

Analysis of Food and Drugs.

<i>Articles Analysed.</i>	<i>Number Analysed.</i>	<i>Result of Analyses.</i>		<i>Extent of Adulteration.</i>	<i>Action Taken.</i>
		<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>		
Milk.....	225	217	8	FORMAL SAMPLES. 18.7% deficient in milk fat	Prosecuted.
				15.7% "	"
				12.0% "	"
				9.0% "	"
				8.7% "	"
				5.0% "	"
				2.6% added water	
				1.2% "	
Skimmed Milk...	1	—	1	79.2% "	"
Butter.....	6	6	—		
Cheese.....	4	4	—		
Lard.....	6	6	—		
Coffee.....	12	12	—		
Pepper.....	4	4	—		
Mincemeat.....	6	6	—		
Sausage.....	10	8	2	9.1 grains per lb. Boric Acid	
				8.4 "	
Apples.....	2	2	—		
Jam.....	6	6	—		
Malt Vinegar.....	16	16	—		
				INFORMAL SAMPLES.	
Milk.....	1	1	—		
Condensed Milk..	6	6	—		
Butter.....	12	12	—		
Preserved Cream.	10	10	—		
Cheese.....	6	6	—		
Flour.....	6	6	—		
Mincemeat.....	2	2	—		
Pepper.....	8	8	—		
Ground Almonds.	6	6	—		
Ground Ginger...	6	6	—		
Totals.....	361	350	11		

The following tables show the percentage of adulteration compared with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total Samples analysed.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>		<i>Percentage adulteration.</i>
1917	..	386	..	29	7.5
1918	..	362	..	24	6.63
1919	..	359	..	19	5.29
1920	..	360	..	8	2.22
1921	..	360	..	16	4.4
1922	..	361	..	26	7.2
1923	..	326	..	12	3.68
1924	..	360	..	19	5.28
1925	..	360	..	17	4.72
1926	..	361	..	11	3.05

Analysis of *milk samples* compared with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total Samples analysed.</i>		<i>Adulterated.</i>		<i>Percentage adulteration</i>
1917	..	261	..	29	11.1
1918	..	257	..	22	8.56
1919	..	269	..	17	6.32
1920	..	239	..	6	2.51
1921	..	223	..	9	4.04
1922	..	233	..	10	4.3
1923	..	187	..	7	3.74
1924	..	243	..	13	5.35
1925	..	211	..	10	4.74
1926	..	226	..	8	3.54

Local Proceedings during the Year 1926.

OFFENCE.	RESULT.	FINE.
SELLING ADULTERATED MILK :—		
18.7% deficient in fat.....	Convicted	£10, Analyst's & Advocate's fees.
15.7% " } 8.7% " } 12.0% " } 9.0% " }	" " " " "	£2, Analyst's & Witnesses' fees. £5 & Analyst's fee. £2, Analyst's & Advocate's fees.
SKIMMED MILK :—		
79.2% added water.....	"	£10, Analyst's, Advocate's and Witnesses' fees.
For an offence against the Shops (Early Closing) Act, 1920....	"	10/-
" " "	"	10/-
" " "	"	10/-
" " "	"	5/-
" " "	"	5/-
For an offence against " The Stockport Butchers' Half-Holiday and Closing Order, 1921 ".....	"	£1
" " "	"	10/-
For an offence against " The Stockport Barbers' Half-Holiday Order, 1921 ".....	"	5/-

Ice Cream Vendors.

These places have been visited 161 times during the year, and in 3 instances notices were served to cleanse the premises, and 2 owners were requested to inscribe their names and addresses on the vehicles used for the sale of this commodity.

PART II.

Infectious Diseases.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases notified to your Medical Officer of Health during 1926 was 1219, compared with 1210 during the previous year.

On the 1st October, 1926, Puerperal Pyrexia became compulsorily notifiable by Regulations of the Ministry of Health.

It is hoped that greater accuracy in recording cases of fever during the puerperium will thus be attained.

In consequence of an outbreak of Pemphigus Neonatorum in June it was considered advisable to have this disease made compulsorily notifiable in Stockport for a period of six months. The necessary steps to this end were taken and Pemphigus Neonatorum was compulsorily notifiable in the County Borough from 2nd September, 1926, to the 1st March, 1927.

Further reference to Puerperal Pyrexia and Pemphigus Neonatorum will be found in the section of this report which deals with Maternity and Child Welfare.

Of the 1219 notifications received 840 were of cases of Scarlet Fever. This disease which had been prevalent during 1925 continued to spread during the year under review and threw a heavy burden of extra work upon your Health Department and severely taxed the accommodation at your Isolation Hospital. The infection was fortunately of mild type and very few of the cases proved fatal. The fact that so many of the cases were of mild type made the work of control of the epidemic most difficult. Many of the patients were so little inconvenienced at the onset of the disease that medical aid was not sought until desquamation had started.

In the earlier part of the year the Reddish district was mainly involved but, later, the epidemic spread to the other districts of the town.

Of the 840 cases of Scarlet Fever notified 720, or 86 per cent., were removed for isolation and treatment to your Isolation Hospital at Cherry Tree Lane. Of the 104 cases of Diphtheria notified, 86 were similarly dealt with.

Your Medical Officer of Health has been available for consultation upon doubtful cases of infectious disease, and during the period from 1st April to 31st December his services in this connection have been utilised by his medical colleagues upon 47 occasions.

Measures taken to control epidemics of infectious disease depend for their efficiency upon the receipt of early information of the occurrence of cases. Prompt notification is of great value, delayed notification is useless. In this connection I would express my thanks to my medical colleagues for their loyal co-operation and their valuable help. The removal of suitable cases to the Isolation Hospital, the investigation of home conditions by the Sanitary Inspectors and the disinfection of premises, bedding, etc., have been promptly and efficiently carried out by the officers of this Department.

The following table contains information as to the age incidence of, and mortality from, cases of notifiable infectious diseases during 1926 :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1926.

DISEASE.	Total cases notified.	At Ages—Years.												Cases admitted to Fever Hospital.	Cases treated in Sanatoria, etc.	Total Deaths.	Deaths at age periods.											
		—1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & upw'ds.				—1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & upw'ds.
Diphtheria.....	104	2	1	7	6	5	42	15	10	8	5	3	..	86	..	7	1	1	..	4	..	1
Scarlet Fever.....	840	2	14	19	40	60	380	203	58	48	11	5	..	720	2	7	2	3	..	2
Enteric Fever.....	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever.....	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	9	..	..	..	..	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	3	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas.....	57	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	12	9	23	8	..	12	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
Pneumonia :																												
Acute Primary.....	105	1	3	1	4	4	3	27	20	32	10	..	30	50	1	:	7	9	28	5
Acute Influenzal.....	49	1	1	1	2	1	5	2	1	10	7	16	2	..	2	18	2	4	10	2
Malaria.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Trench Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	24	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pemphigus Neonatorium.	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica...	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	4	1	..	..	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
Acute Polio-Encephalitis.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total...	1219	34	20	27	48	67	434	228	77	127	56	81	20	808	66	94	5	..	1	4	..	6	..	1	14	13	43	7

Disease	Total cases benign	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Diphtheria.....	104	2	1	7	6	9	45	15			
Scarlet Fever.....	840	2	14	19	40	60	380	303			
Enteric Fever.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1			
Paratyphoid Fever.....	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paratyphoid Typhoid.....	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Typhoid.....	67	..	..	..	..	..	1	1			
Pneumonia.....											
Acute Primary.....	106	1	3	..	..	1	4	1			
Acute Influenza.....	10	1	1	1	2	4	2	2			
Malaria.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pyæmia.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1			
Trench Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	24	24	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pemphigus Neonatorum.....	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pincephalitis Infantilis.....	6	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	
Acute Pseudo-Pneumonia.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Polio-myelitis.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	1219	34	26	27	48	67	431	328			

DISEASE.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Smallpox.....	47	49	46	70	74	46	47	67	75	102	122	95	840
Scarlet Fever.....	9	8	9	5	7	6	7	11	8	19	8	7	104
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup.....	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	5
Typhoid Fever.....	..	1	..	2	..	1	1	1	..	2	2	..	10
Puerperal Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5	4	12
Puerperal Pyrexia....	6	7	2	9	5	3	3	3	6	6	4	3	57
Erysipelas.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neona- torum.....	3	2	..	3	2	2	3	..	2	4	1	2	24
Pemphigus Neona- torum.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	4
Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	6
Lethargica.....	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..
Acute Polio- Encephalitis.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Acute Poliomyelitis...	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculosis—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary.....	8	18	14	11	11	9	12	18	14	17	12	3	147
Other Forms.....	4	3	7	4	5	5	4	4	4	1	4	3	48
Malaria.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery.....	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Trench Fever.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia.....	10	12	18	10	10	11	5	6	3	4	10	6	105
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.....	3	4	8	13	5	3	2	..	..	2	5	4	49
Totals.....	90	105	106	128	123	87	85	110	113	163	176	128	1414

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Smallpox.

There has been no case of this disease since 1909.

For the isolation of cases of this disease your Council retains four beds at the Hyde Smallpox Hospital. In the event of a serious epidemic of Smallpox occurring in Stockport it would be necessary to utilise your Isolation Hospital at Whitehill for cases of Smallpox.

Widespread apathy towards the question of vaccination is evident everywhere and the following table indicates that Stockport is not exceptional. Vaccination and efficient Re-vaccination remain our most powerful weapons against the inroads of Smallpox into a community.

Smallpox of mild type has been very prevalent in various districts of England during 1926, notably in the County of Durham, in Derbyshire and elsewhere.

Apart from the human suffering and inconvenience which it entails an epidemic of Smallpox throws a heavy financial burden upon a community. Efficient vaccination is our only safeguard—GET VACCINATED Now.

I am indebted to H. Barlow, Esq., Clerk to the Guardians, for his kindness in supplying the following information with regard to vaccination returns for the County Borough of Stockport from 1916 to 1926 :—

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT
FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

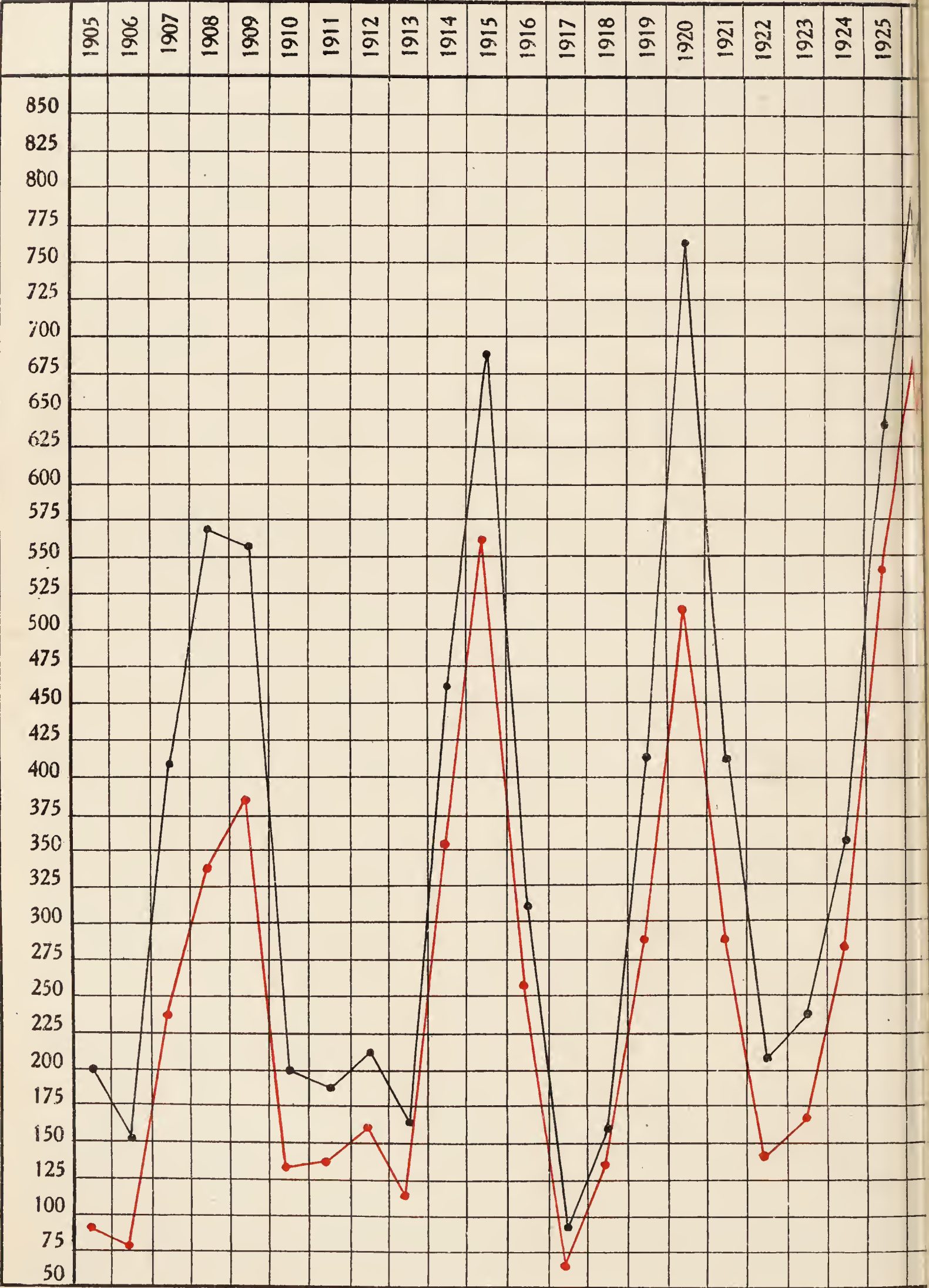
	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Births.....	2224	1883	1782	1959	2890	2567	2197	2210	2067	2077
Successfully vaccinated...	1033	817	847	847	1287	1136	976	1046	970	898
Insusceptible of vaccination.....	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	2
Died unvaccinated.....	176	154	134	137	205	173	135	139	108	130
Exemptions.....	768	730	653	812	1179	1051	938	748	745	832
Postponement by Medical Certificate.....	100	78	53	37	92	68	42	66	90	74
Removed : Address unknown.....	105	76	75	52	73	57	45	49	72	67
Had Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Removed to other districts										
Vaccination Officer notified.....	16	10	10	12	32	47	46	53	72	56
Unaccounted for.....	25	17	10	62	22	37	13	27	8	18
*Successful primary vaccinations at all ages	1096	930	729	988	1410	1354	1063	1125	1088	1012

*The number of successful primary vaccinations at all ages during 1926 was 953.

Chart shewing the number of cases of Scarlet Fever for the past 21 years

No. of cases notified in black.

No. of cases removed to Hospital in red.



No Primary Vaccinations or Re-vaccinations have been carried out by your Medical Officer of Health during 1926 under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Scarlet Fever.

The epidemic of Scarlet Fever which was noted in 1925 persisted during 1926 and, during the twelve months under review 840 cases of this disease were notified to your Health Department. Fortunately most of the cases were of mild type. Many of the cases were so mild, and the initial symptoms were so slight, that the illness was considered to be of a trivial nature. It was only on the occurrence of desquamation that Scarlet Fever was suspected and medical aid sought. Under these circumstances the efforts of the Department to control the epidemic were attended with great difficulty.

The foregoing chart illustrates the recurrence of periods of epidemic prevalence of Scarlet Fever at intervals of five or six years :—

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year 1926.</i>	<i>Estimated Popula- tion.</i>	<i>Percentage of cases removed to Isolation Hospital.</i>	<i>Incidence of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the population</i>
Lancashire Hill.....	42	5705	90	7.36
Heaton Lane.....	37	6110	90	6.06
Old Road.....	38	5960	95	6.38
Portwood.....	72	8120	96	8.87
St. Mary's.....	14	2960	86	4.73
Vernon.....	40	6440	98	6.21
Spring Bank.....	32	4290	91	7.46
Hollywood.....	102	9030	90	11.29
Edgeley.....	69	11020	77	6.26
Shaw Heath.....	58	10770	84	5.39
St. Thomas's.....	36	5220	97	6.89
Hempshaw Lane.....	28	5685	96	4.93
Cale Green.....	26	6455	85	4.03
Heaviley.....	84	11070	76	7.59
Reddish North.....	84	9690	82	8.67
Reddish South.....	36	6035	81	5.97
Heaton Norris North....	11	5030	27	2.19
Heaton Norris South....	20	5810	60	3.44
Infirmery.....	1	..	100	..
Union Workhouse....	..	..	..	..
Union Hospital.....	8	..	75	..
Isolation Hospital....	1	..	100	..
Barnes' Home Industrial School...	1	..	100	..

Diphtheria.

104 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year as compared with 96 cases during 1925. The cases were of a sporadic nature and were distributed throughout the town.

The home conditions in each case were carefully investigated by your Sanitary Inspectors and preventive measures were adopted.

The Medical Attendant of each case notified was requested to examine all contacts and to take swabs from the throats, etc., of contacts for bacteriological examination if necessary. Materials for taking cultures from the throat, nose, etc., for bacteriological examination are provided for the use of medical practitioners on application to the Stockport Infirmary.

Outfits containing Diphtheria Antitoxin and syringe are kept at the Town Hall and Police Stations for the use of medical men as follows :—

- (1) At Town Hall.—Outfits each containing phials of 4,000 and 2,000 units.
- (2) At Police Station, Vernon Street.—3 Outfits each containing phials of 4,000 and 2,000 units.
- (3) At Police Station, Heaton Moor.—Phials of 4,000 and 2,000 units are kept in stock.

Outfits after use are returned to the Town Hall and after the contents have been replenished and the syringe, etc., sterilised at the Isolation Hospital they are re-distributed for use. I have to thank the Matron of the Isolation Hospital for making the necessary arrangements for the careful sterilization of these outfits.

Typhoid Fever.

Five cases of Typhoid Fever were reported during the year as compared with four cases in 1925, and two of these cases were treated in the Isolation Hospital.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Upon 1st October, 1926, the " Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations " came into operation. Prior to that date only Puerperal Fever was compulsorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health. Under the new Regulations Puerperal Pyrexia is defined as " Any febrile condition (other than a condition which is required to be notified as Puerperal Fever under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Acts) occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage in which a temperature of 100.4° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade) or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours or has recurred during that period."

The information now obtainable as a result of the operation of these Regulations will be valuable in securing early notification of the occurrence of Fever during the puerperium. Greater accuracy as to the type of case notified will be obtained and this will enhance the value of the statistics of various areas for purposes of comparison.

During 1926, 10 cases of Puerperal Fever and 12 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. Institutional treatment where necessary was

secured for most of the cases at Stepping Hill Hospital. 5 cases of Puerperal Fever and 9 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia received institutional treatment. 2 cases of Puerperal Fever proved fatal.

Each case notified has been made the subject of special investigation by your Health Visitors and the midwife concerned in each case has been disinfected, together with her equipment, at your Isolation Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

24 cases of this disease were notified during the year as compared with 34 cases in 1925. This disease which is an inflammation of the eyes of a newly-born child is one of the commonest causes of blindness.

Full particulars of the action taken with regard to these cases is given in the section of this report dealing with Maternity and Child Welfare, vide page 81.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

In consequence of an outbreak of this disease in June 1926 and subsequent months special attention was paid to it by the Staff of the Department. This disease was made compulsorily notifiable by Order of the Council with the consent of the Ministry of Health for a period of six months, from 2nd September, 1926. Particulars of the outbreak and of the action taken are given in the Maternity and Child Welfare section of this report, vide page 82.

Erysipelas.

57 cases were notified during the year as compared with 46 in 1925. Of these cases 12 received institutional treatment and 4 proved fatal.

Pneumonia.

Two forms of Pneumonia are compulsorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health :—

- (1) Acute Primary Pneumonia—Number of cases notified during 1926—105.
- (2) Acute Influenzal Pneumonia—Number of cases notified during 1926—49.

Of these cases 50 of Acute Primary Pneumonia and 18 of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia proved fatal.

Malaria, Dysentery and Trench Fever.

One case of Dysentery was notified during the year but no information reached the Department as to the occurrence of fresh cases of Malaria or Trench Fever.

Tuberculosis.

During 1926, 147 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified ; of these 89 were males and 58 females.

48 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified during the same period, 25 males and 23 females.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

Six cases of this disease were notified as compared with 20 cases in 1925. Of these 6 cases 3 proved fatal. Special reports were received from the Doctors in attendance upon these cases. I would take this opportunity of thanking my medical colleagues for their kindness in furnishing particulars of their cases of this disease.

Encephalitis Lethargica is a very fatal disease and in a proportion of the survivors serious alteration in the mental condition and in the moral outlook is met with. This disease is believed to be communicable from one person to another, and in Stockport your Health Committee has arranged for cases in the acute stage of the illness to be isolated and treated at your Isolation Hospital and for disinfection of the premises, etc., to be carried out.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

One case of this disease, which proved fatal, was notified during 1926.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

One fatal case of this disease, in a child 1-2 years of age, was notified during 1926.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

These diseases are not compulsorily notifiable within the County Borough of Stockport, but information as to the occurrence of cases is obtained from the School Medical Officers, School Nurses, Attendance Officers, Parents, and from the Health Visitors during the course of their district visitations.

Measles and Whooping Cough are really serious diseases of childhood because of the tendency for the occurrence of complications affecting the respiratory organs, e.g., Bronchitis, Broncho-Pneumonia, and Pneumonia.

During the year 25 deaths were ascribed to Measles and 5 to Whooping Cough. Cases of Measles and Whooping Cough are visited and the parents are advised as to the need for medical assistance and as to measures for the prevention of complications.

Bacteriological Examinations.

The routine Bacteriological work is carried out at the Stockport Infirmary Pathological Department under arrangements made by your Health Committee with the Infirmary Board.

The results of the examinations carried out during the year were as follows :—

	<i>Positive.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Diphtheria.....	116	..	723
Typhoid.....	5	..	13
Bovine Tuberculosis in Milk.....	1	..	12
Other Bacteriological Examinations :			
Milk (Bacterial count).....	—	..	4
Water.....	—	..	2
Faeces.....	—	..	2

The examination of sputa in suspected cases of phthisis is carried out at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, 383 examinations being carried out there during 1926, of which 74 were positive and 309 negative. In addition 2 specimens were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, both of which proved to be negative.

Particulars of the examination of Pathological material in connection with Venereal Disease, which is mainly carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, are given on pages 74 and 75.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of premises after infectious diseases is carried out by the Staff of your Health Department.

Infected materials, bedding, etc., are removed to the Isolation Hospital for disinfection.

During the year 15,000 articles were thus disinfected.

The disinfection of infected materials and the cleansing of persons would be considerably facilitated if a Cleansing Station were established in a central position in the town. It is hoped that a scheme for such a station will be submitted for your consideration at an early date.

Isolation Hospital.

Your Isolation Hospital situated in Cherry Tree Lane, has accommodation for 78 cases and is utilised for the isolation and treatment of cases of acute infectious disease occurring within the County Borough.

Your Medical Officer of Health is Medical Superintendent of the Hospital and has been ably assisted in the conduct of the Hospital by Dr. James Worthington, the Deputy Medical Superintendent; Miss T. P. Cranmore, the Matron; and the Nursing and Domestic Staffs. I would take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and members of the Hospital Subcommittee for their keen personal interest in the Hospital and their kindly consideration at all times for the welfare of the patients. I am deeply indebted to Dr. Worthington, not only for his willing co-operation and able help in the medical work at the Hospital, but also for his personal kindness to me during my recent illness.

The work of the Hospital has been very arduous during the year under review and the accommodation has been taxed to its uttermost on many occasions and especially in the later months of the year. The widespread epidemic of Scarlet Fever was responsible for the severe strain upon the accommodation at the Hospital which reached its climax on 16th October, 1926, upon which date it was found necessary to utilise your Whitehill Hospital for the reception of convalescent cases of Scarlet Fever.

The results of treatment at the Hospital have been highly satisfactory. Of the 720 cases of Scarlet Fever and 86 of Diphtheria admitted during the year only 7 cases of Scarlet Fever and 6 of Diphtheria proved fatal.

Each case prior to discharge was carefully examined as to freedom from infection, and the number of "return" cases was comparatively small.

Serum Treatment has been used, with excellent results, in early cases of Scarlet Fever of severe type.

The accompanying table sets forth the statistics of the work of the Hospital and of the results of treatment of the cases during 1926 :—

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL, CHERRY TREE LANE, STOCKPORT.

<i>Name of Disease.</i>	<i>In Hospital 1st Jan., 1926</i>	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Recovered and Discharged</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>In Hospital 31st Dec., 1926</i>
Scarlet Fever...	88	720	663	7	138
Typhoid Fever .	—	2	1	—	1
Diphtheria.....	6	86	78	6	8
Encephalitis Lethargica..	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes....	—	*30	26	2	2
Totals.....	94	838	768	15	149

* 7 notified as Diphtheria and 23 as Scarlet Fever.

YEAR 1926.

CASES TREATED FROM 1907 TO 1926 INCLUSIVE, IN THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Smallpox.....	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever....	265	386	438	175	150	199	132	374	626	355	92	146	314	597	365	184	187	338	611	808
Typhus.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric.....	18	18	14	8	7	6	21	17	23	15	24	17	11	3	2	5	1	4	1	2
Diphtheria.....	5	3	7	14	14	17	44	27	57	55	26	69	73	167	145	112	99	55	86	92
Other Diseases...	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	7	13	2	3	0	0	3	0	2	0	30
Totals.....	289	409	461	197	171	223	198	418	709	432	155	234	401	767	512	304	287	399	698	932

During the year 1926 it has not been possible to use systematically the Schick Test for Diphtheria and the Dick Test for Scarlet Fever in the routine work of the Hospital. These tests, now used extensively in the United States of America, are of value in the diagnosis of certain doubtful cases, but so far their use in this country has been limited.

“Return Cases” are essentially a Hospital question. When a case of Scarlet Fever has been discharged from Hospital to his own home, and within a certain period, i.e., 28 days, another member of his family contracts Scarlet Fever and is admitted to the Hospital, the second case is referred to as a “Return Case.” Such cases have been the subject of special investigation by the Officers of your Department, and the following table shews the results of these investigations.

On discharge from your isolation Hospital the parents of each child receive written instructions as to the measures to be adopted to prevent the occurrence of such cases, but, of course, it is difficult to ensure that these instructions will be carried out. I am convinced that such articles as toys and books which have been hidder away during the child's absence from the home, and which are brought into use on the child's return, are responsible for many “Return Cases.”

YEAR 1926.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF "RETURN CASES" OF SCARLET FEVER.

No. in Register.	Age.	Sex.	DISCHARGED PATIENTS.			Notes as to any abnormality.		Onset and number of Return Case.	Interval between Discharge of Patient and onset of Return Case.
			Date of Discharge.	Days in Hospital	Length of Illness.	On Discharge.	After Discharge.		
586	5½	F	2/ 1/26	106	108	..	Sore face and nasal discharge	19/ 1/26 (32)	17 days.
718	8	M	9/ 1/26	67	70	..	..	18/ 1/26 (96)	9 "
21	6	F	20/ 2/26	36	37	..	..	6/ 3/26 (157)	14 "
30	9½	M	27/ 2/26	40	41	..	..	8/ 3/26 (160)	9 "
124	14½	M	27/ 4/26	63	64	..	..	29/ 4/26 (288)	2 "
135	7½	F	16/ 4/26	50	52	..	..	26/ 4/26 (274)	10 "
184	10½	F	21/ 5/26	57	59	}	..	31/ 5/26 (402)	2 "
218	5	F	28/ 5/26	49	52		..		
221	8	F	21/ 5/26	41	42		..		
168	5	F	21/ 5/26	37	39	..	..	25/ 5/26 (380)	4 "
489	6	M	7/ 9/26	52	56	..	..	12/ 9/26 (629)	5 "
594	15¾	F	5/10/26	35	39	..	..	14/10/26 (760)	9 "
609	8	M	22/10/26	48	50	..	..	29/10/26 (832)	7 "
621	4½	M	10/12/26	92	94	Running ears	..	18/12/26 (1059)	8 "
679	5½	M	11/11/26	45	47	..	..	14/11/26 (922)	2 "
719	6¾	F	7/12/26	59	61	..	..	14/12/26 (1054)	7 "

PART III.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

195 cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year as compared with 197 in the previous year.

Of the 195 cases thus notified 147 were cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs and 48 were cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

In addition to the above, there were 17 cases, 8 Pulmonary and 9 Non-pulmonary, which ended fatally and which had not been notified in accordance with the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations. The ratio of deaths of non-notified cases to total deaths from Tuberculosis was thus two in eleven. In these non-notified cases the attention of the Medical Practitioner in attendance is drawn to the fact that the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations have not been complied with.

The number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis during the year was 92 as compared with 130 in the previous year, giving a death-rate of 0.74 per thousand of the population.

In the following table of New Cases and Mortality during 1926 all primary notifications are included together with other new cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year :—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE-PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				TOTAL DEATHS.			
	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.....	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	2
1-5.....	3	1	6	4	1	—	1	2
5-10.....	3	2	10	7	1	—	4	2
10-15.....	2	1	1	2	1	—	—	—
15-20.....	7	8	3	1	2	3	1	—
20-25.....	7	13	3	1	5	3	2	—
25-35.....	20	13	3	3	4	9	2	2
35-45.....	29	16	2	2	13	6	—	1
45-55.....	13	4	—	2	10	4	1	1
55-65.....	10	1	1	1	7	1	—	1
65 and upwards..	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	95	60	29	28	44	26	11	11

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Of the 147 cases notified, 95 occurred between the ages of 20 and 45 years, 25 were over 45 years of age, 15 were between the ages of 15 and 20, and 12 cases were under 15 years of age. There were 70 deaths during the year from Tuberculosis of the Lungs as compared with 104 in 1925. Of these 70 fatal cases, 44 were males and 26 females. The death-rate was .56 per 1,000 of the population, which is the lowest rate on record for the County Borough of Stockport. The rate for 1925 was .82.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

48 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year, 25 in males and 23 in females.

The number of deaths from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis was 22 as compared with 26 in 1925. The death-rate was therefore .18 per 1,000 of the population in 1926, and .20 in 1925.

11 of the fatal cases were amongst children under 15 years of age.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1924.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register of Notifications on 31st December, 1926, was :—

Pulmonary	{	Males	355
		Females	276
Non-Pulmonary	{	Males	172
		Females	179

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was taken during 1926 under these Regulations which relate to tuberculous employees in the Milk Trade.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No action was taken during 1926 under this Section of the Public Health Act, 1925, which relates to the compulsory removal of cases to Hospital.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1912.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS during the period from 3rd January, 1926, to 1st January, 1927, in the County Borough of Stockport.

YEAR 1926.															No. of NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM C.				
NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM A.																			
NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM B.																			
Age Periods.	Primary Notifications.										Total Notifications on Form A.	Primary Notifications.			Total Notifications on Form B.	Poor Law Institutions.	Sana-toria.		
	Primary Notifications.											Under 5	5 to 10	10 to 15				Total.	
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and over				Total.				
Pulmonary—																			
Males.....	3	1	3	2	7	5	20	29	10	9	1	89	105		4	58 (1)			
Females.....	1	1	2	1	8	12	13	16	3	1	1	58	61		1	44 (2)			
Non-Pulmonary—																			
Males.....	6	6	6	1	2	2	2	2		1		22	30	3	.	1 (3)			
Females.....	4	7	7	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	23	29	.	.	3 (4)			

SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health or Chief (Administrative) Tuberculosis Officer during the period from the 3rd January 1926, to the 1st January, 1927, otherwise than by notification on Form A or Form B under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912.

Age Periods.	YEAR 1926.										Total Cases.
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65 and upwards.	
Pulmonary Males.....	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	1	—	6
" Females.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Non-Pulmonary Males..	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	4
" Females..	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	5

Treatment of Tuberculosis.

Each case notified as Tuberculosis is visited by one of your Health Visitors who inquires into the home conditions of the case and ascertains what treatment the patient's doctor has recommended. During the year 2,083 visits were thus paid to the homes of cases of Tuberculosis. Facilities for the examination and supervision of cases have been provided by your Health Committee at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Great Egerton Street, Stockport. Cases are sent by their own Doctors to the Dispensary for purposes of consultation, observation, classification and supervision. The Dispensary thus fulfils the functions of a Central Information Bureau and of a Central Clearing House for tuberculosis cases in the area.

I am indebted to Dr. H. Richmond, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, and to the Dispensary Staff for the following information with regard to the work at the Tuberculosis Dispensary during 1926 :—

STOCKPORT TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Number of Patients.

The total number of patients attending the Dispensary during the year was 615 and the total of attendances made was 7,254. Owing to an increase in the number of available beds at Sanatoria, etc., it has been found possible practically to dispense with the list of cases awaiting admission to such Institutions, but the need for additional accommodation for patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis has been felt from time to time during the year.

254 new patients were dealt with during the year. 110 of these cases were children under 16 years of age, 115 were civilians and 29 were discharged soldiers.

<i>Nature of Disease.</i>	<i>Discharged</i>		<i>Civilians.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Soldiers.</i>				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	10	..	57	..	67
Bronchitis, &c.....	14	..	110	..	124
Tuberculosis of Bones, Joints and Skin.....	1	..	3	..	4
Tubercular Glands.....	1	..	26	..	27
Other Diseases.....	3	..	29	..	32
	—		—		—
Totals.....	29	..	225	..	254
	—		—		—

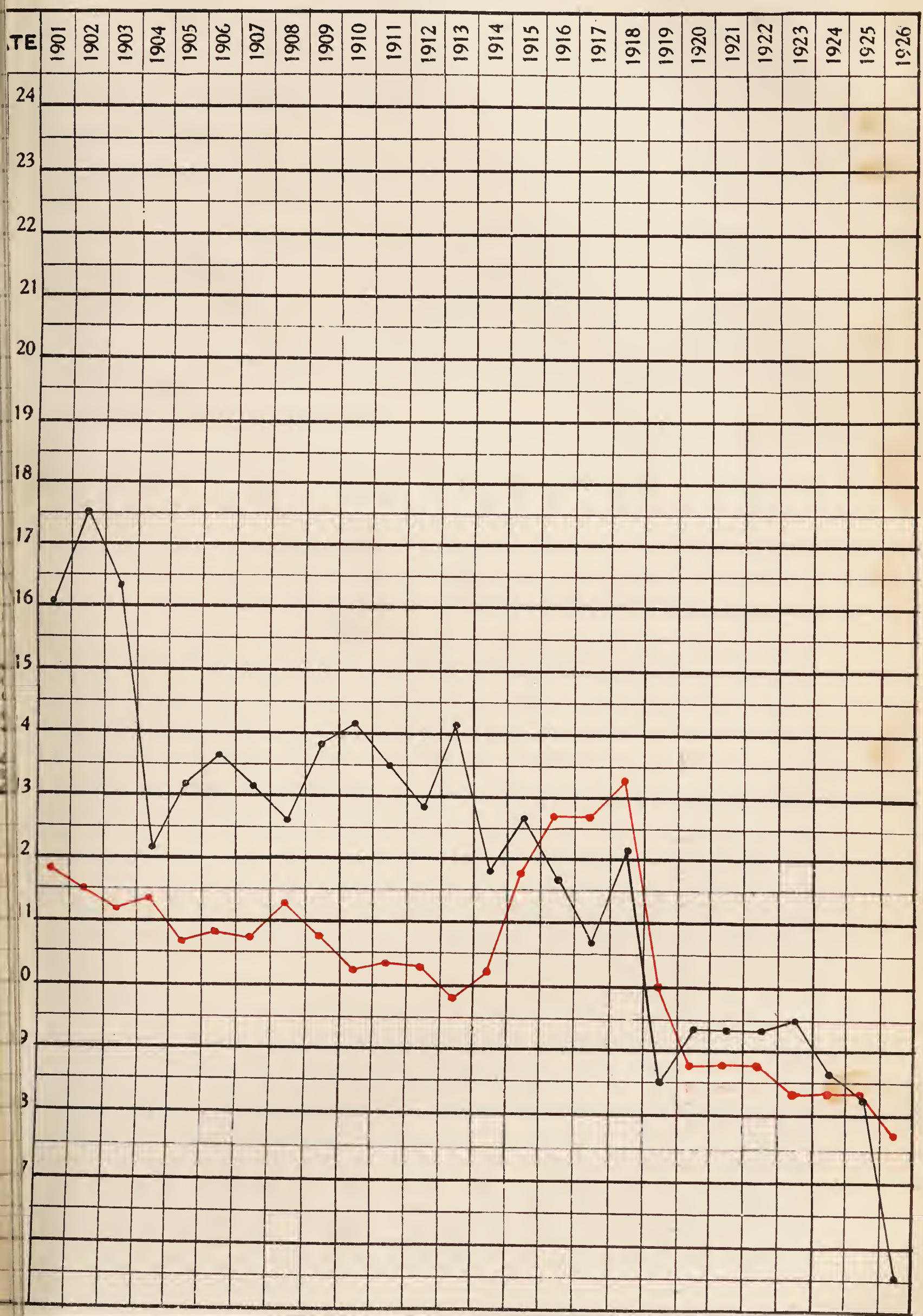
Contacts.

Contacts of cases of Tuberculosis are examined and kept under observation at the Dispensary. During the year 37 contacts were examined and 10 of these were found to be suffering from Tuberculosis. Several others were under observation at the end of the year.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Specimens of Sputa are examined for Tubercle Bacilli at the Dispensary by Dr. Richmond, and reports of the results of these examinations are sent to the doctors concerned.

The following Chart shows the Death Rates from Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 10,000 of the Population in England and Wales and Stockport, 1901.-1926.



England and Wales In Red.

Stockport In Black.

During the year 383 specimens were thus examined and of these 74 were positive and 309 were negative.

Hospital, Sanatoria, &c.

Institutional provision for cases of Tuberculosis in Stockport patients is referred to on page 24 of this report.

During the year the number of beds retained by your Council at the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop, Grange-over-Sands, was increased to a block of ten beds, 6 for males and 4 for females.

At Whitehill Hospital it was found necessary to use the accommodation for cases of Scarlet Fever from 16th October, 1926, and at the end of the year the Hospital was still in use for this purpose. Temporary arrangements had to be made for the reception of the displaced tuberculosis cases in other Sanatoria and elsewhere.

The following table sets forth the number of cases of Tuberculosis dealt with at Whitehill Hospital during the year :—

Number of patients in Hospital December 31st, 1925.....	22
" " admitted during 1926.....	43
" " discharged during 1926.....	56
" " died during 1926.....	9
" " remaining in Hospital 31st December, 1926.....	Nil

The routine work of Whitehill Hospital has been ably carried out during the year by all the members of the Staff. The administrative arrangements in connection with the change from tuberculosis cases to Scarlet Fever cases were efficiently and expeditiously carried out by Miss Cranmore (the Matron) and Miss Wilson (the Deputy Matron).

During the year the Members of your Sanatoria Sub-Committee paid several visits to Whitehill Hospital and a special visit of inspection was paid to the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop. The Committee on that occasion saw ten Stockport patients undergoing treatment at that Institution and were well satisfied with the arrangements. Dr. Walker, the Medical Superintendent, personally conducted the Members of the Committee over the Sanatorium and explained the methods of treatment adopted.

Co-operation.

Close co-operation is secured between the Tuberculosis Service and the other Medical Services of the Corporation, and also between the Dispensary and the general and special Hospitals in the area. Your Medical Officer of Health is also Chief Tuberculosis Officer. Your Assistant Tuberculosis Officer is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Home visiting of cases is carried out by your Health Visitors. Cases are referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary by the Assistant School Medical Officers, by the Medical Practitioners in the town, and by the authorities of the other Hospitals in the neighbourhood. The services of your Assistant Tuberculosis Officer are available for purposes of consultation with his medical colleagues.

X-Rays.

Arrangements have been made with the Board of Management of the Stockport Infirmary for x-rays examinations to be made of cases sent by your Tuberculosis Officers at a cost of 10/6 per examination.

Dental Treatment.

Arrangements have been made by your Council with the Authorities of the Meathop Sanatorium for Dental Treatment to be available for Stockport patients in that Institution. Financial assistance has been given by your Health Committee for Dental Treatment of Stockport patients when recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers.

Extra Nourishment.

Arrangements are made for the supply of extra nourishment, e.g., Milk, Cod Liver Oil Emulsion, Malt and Oil, etc., to necessitous cases.

After-Care.

No special organisation exists locally for finding employment for patients nor are any arrangements in force for the supply and supervision of shelters at the homes of patients.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

The arrangements made in the previous year whereby cases of crippling due to Tuberculosis are treated at the Orthopaedic Department of the Stockport Infirmary have been continued during 1926.

The following is a summary of the work of this Department during 1926 :—

- 14 Cases treated.
- 71 Out-patient attendances made.
- 20 { Attendances for Massage.
- { Attendances for medical exercises.
- 62 In-patient days.
- 9 X-Ray examinations.

Cases recommended by your Tuberculosis Officers are dealt with at the Stockport Infirmary by Mr. E. S. Brentnall, Hon. Orthopaedic Surgeon, and the administrative arrangements have been made by Mr. Pearce, Secretary-Superintendent of the Infirmary.

In connection with the scheme valuable financial assistance has been given by the Trustees of the late Miss Maria Leigh in defraying the whole or part of the cost of surgical appliances in necessitous cases.

Patients requiring prolonged Hospital treatment have been sent to the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital at Oswestry, when beds have been available, and in this connection I have to thank the Trustees of the George Fearn Trust for financial assistance in certain cases which have been referred to them.

TABLE I.

**Annual Return showing the work of the Dispensary during the year
1926.**

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY				TOTAL.			
	Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children		Adults.		Children	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts) :—												
a) Definitely tuberculous..	39	22	2	2	4	2	10	7	43	24	12	9
b) Doubtfully tuberculous..	27	13	17	15	2	0	10	13	29	13	27	28
c) Non-tuberculous.....	14	4	7	2	1	0	2	2	15	4	9	4
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year :—												
a) Definitely tuberculous..	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	2	3	5
b) Doubtfully tuberculous..	6	6	6	2	—	1	—	1	6	7	6	3
c) Non-tuberculous.....	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as												
a) Cured.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
b) Diagnosis not confirmed or non-tuberculous (including cancellation of cases notified in error.....	14	5	10	3	1	—	2	2	15	5	12	5
D.—NUMBER OF PERSONS on Dispensary Register on December 31st :—												
a) Diagnosis completed....	173	92	13	18	21	18	37	36	194	110	50	54
b) Diagnosis not completed	65	53	55	54	12	6	67	80	77	59	122	134

1. Number of Persons on Dispensary Register on January 1st.....	615
2. Number of patients transferred from other areas and of "lost sight of" cases returned.....	3
3. Number of patients transferred to other areas and cases "lost sight of"...	1
4. Died during the year.....	34
5. Number of observation cases under A (b) and B (b) above in which period of observation exceeded 2 months.....	110
6. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts).....	7254
7. Number of attendances of Non-pulmonary cases at Orthopaedic Out-stations for treatment or supervision.....	93

8. Number of attendances, at General Hospitals or other Institutions approved for the purpose, of patients for	
(a) "Light" treatment.....	261
(b) Other special forms of treatment.....	215
9. Number of patients to whom Dental Treatment was given, at or in connection with the Dispensary.....	4
10. Number of consultations with Medical Practitioners :—	
(a) At Homes of Applicants.....	20
(b) Otherwise.....	210
11. Number of other visits by Tuberculosis Officers to Homes.....	20
12. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to Homes for Dispensary purposes.....	2083
13. Number of	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined.....	383
(b) X-Ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work..	17
14. Number of Insured Persons on Dispensary Register 31st December.....	338
15. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December.....	2
16. Number of reports received during the year in respect of Insured Persons :—	
(a) Form G.P. 17.....	7
(b) Form G.P. 36.....	10

TABLE II.—RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(A) Average Number of Beds available for Patients during the year 1926.

	Observation.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Total.
		"Sanatorium" Beds.	"Hospit'l" Beds.	Disease of Bones and Joints.	Other Conditions.	
Adult Males.....	—	22	9	—	—	31
Adult Females.....	—	17	17	—	—	34
Children under 15....	—	—	—	3	—	3
Total.....	—	39	26	3	—	68

(B) Annual Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment during the year 1926.

		In Institutions on Jan. 1.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in the Institutions.	In Institutions on Dec. 31.
Number of Patients	Adults M	20	76	65	3	28
	Adults F	19	46	41	6	18
	Children M	3	3	4	—	2
	Children F	3	8	9	—	2
Number of Observation Cases	Adults M	—	6	6	—	—
	Adults F	4	4	8	—	—
	Children M	—	1	1	—	—
	Children F	3	2	5	—	—
Total.....		52	146	139	9	50

TABLE III.

Annual Return showing the immediate results of treatment of patients and of observation of doubtful cases discharged from Residential Institutions during the year 1926.

		Classification on admission to the Institution	Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.												Total
				Under 3 months.			3-6 months.			6-12 months.			More than 12 months			
				M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Class T.B. minus	Quiescent.....	4	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	12	
		Improved.....	5	7	3	3	4	5	3	5	2	1	1	—	39	
		No material improvement.	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Class T.B. Plus Group 1	Quiescent.....	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
		Improved.....	4	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	9	
		No material improvement.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Class T.B. Plus Group 2	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	4	2	—	4	2	—	—	3	—	1	2	—	18	
		No material improvement.	3	1	—	2	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	11	
		Died in Institution.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	Class T.B. Plus Group 3	Quiescent.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	
		No material improvement.	3	1	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	10	
		Died in Institution.....	3	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.	Bones & Joints	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Abdominal	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Other Organs	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Peripheral Glands	Quiescent or Arrested....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Improved.....	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
		No material improvement.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Died in Institution.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.			2-4 weeks.			More than 4 weeks.							
		M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M	F	Ch.	M		F	Ch.		
		Tuberculous.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		—	4	2	7
		Non-tuberculous.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—		2	4	3	11
Observation for purposes of diagnosis		Doubtful.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	

PART IV.

Venereal Diseases.

Venereal Diseases.

The scheme for the treatment of cases of Venereal Diseases is under the control of a Sub-Committee of the Health Committee.

There has been no change in the administrative arrangements for the work during 1926, nor has there been any alteration made in the times of the Clinics or in the personnel employed in this work.

Dr. Reid, Consultant Venereal Diseases Officer, has continued to attend the Clinic at the Borough Dispensary once weekly, and Dr. Richmond, Assistant Venereal Diseases Officer, has conducted the remaining Clinics.

Nurse Smith has assisted at the Clinics for Females, and Mr. Lees, Male Orderly, has been in attendance for Male cases as in previous years.

Borough Dispensary.

Four clinics are held weekly as follows:—

MALES :	Tuesday Evenings :	5-30 to 7-30
	Friday Mornings :	10-30 „ 12-30
FEMALES :	Tuesday Mornings :	10-30 „ 12-30
	Thursday Evenings :	5-30 „ 7-30

In addition to the above Clinics the Centre is open for the Irrigation of cases of Gonorrhœa at the following times:—

MALES :	Wednesday	} 5-30 to 7-30 p.m.
	Saturday	
FEMALES :	By arrangement.	

285 persons, of whom 205 were males and 80 females, attended for treatment during the year, making a total number of attendances of 4363.

In addition to the above, 52 new Stockport patients attended approved Treatment Centres in other towns, making a total number of attendances of 470.

During the year 260 specimens of blood in respect of Stockport patients were examined for the Wassermann Reaction at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, and elsewhere.

60 examinations for the detection of Gonococci were made at the Borough Dispensary, and 26 for the detection of Gonococci and 2 for the detection of Spirochetes, in respect of Stockport patients, were carried out at other Centres.

The following tables, compiled from Form V.D. (R) of the Ministry of Health, give the details of the treatment at the various Treatment Centres:—

TABLE OF INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT AT VARIOUS TREATMENT CENTRES.

	<i>Borough Dispensary Stockport.</i>	<i>Stockport Patients Treated at Manchester Centres.</i>
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
(A) OUT-PATIENT CLINIC :		
Attendances.....	4363	470
(B) IN-PATIENT TREATMENT :		
Number of days.....	—	32
(C) SALVARSAN SUBSTITUTES :		
Doses.....	413	74
(D) EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL MATERIAL :		
For detection of Spirochetes.....	—	2
„ Gonococci.....	60	26
„ Wassermann Reaction.....	*211	49

* Including 103 specimens sent in by Private Practitioners and Institutions.

VENEREAL DISEASE—TREATMENT.

	<i>Borough Dispensary Stockport.</i>	<i>Stockport Patients Treated at Manchester Centres.</i>
A. Number of persons dealt with during the year at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from Syphilis.	41	13
Soft Chancre.....	—	1
Gonorrhœa.....	60	22
Conditions other than Venereal.....	33	16
Total.....	134	52
B. Number of attendances at the Out- Patient Clinic.....	4363	470
C. Aggregate number of “ In-Patient ” days.....	—	32
D Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given in the—		
(1) Out-Patient Clinic.....	413	} 74
(2) In-Patient Department.....	—	

The arrangements for the treatment of cases of these diseases appear to be adequate and patients continue to avail themselves of the facilities offered. The co-operation of the members of the Medical Profession in the town is sought by your Staff and assistance in the diagnosis and treatment of cases referred to your Medical Officers is readily given to the Practitioners concerned.

Apart from the Medical Staffs at the Stockport Infirmary and the Poor Law Infirmary there are two Medical Practitioners in the town qualified to receive free supplies of Arsenobenzol Compounds. During the year 1926 no cases were treated by the Practitioners under this arrangement.

No action was taken during 1926 under the Venereal Diseases Act, 1917.

PART V.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Infantile Mortality.

The rate of Infant Mortality is calculated upon the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per thousand registered births and is a sensitive index of the healthiness of a community.

The whole country has experienced a markedly rapid fall in the rate during the last twenty-five years and the experience of Stockport in this matter is well illustrated in the Chart on page 11 of this report.

The fall in this rate in Stockport has been from 203 in 1900, and 183.9 in 1903, to 76.7 in 1922, and 81.9 in 1926. With the exception of the low rate recorded in 1922, viz., 76.7, the rate of 81.9 per 1,000 births for 1926 is the lowest recorded in the Borough.

The principal causes of Infant Deaths in Stockport in 1926 were Prematurity, Respiratory Diseases, Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus, and Congenital Malformations.

The subject of the care and management of infants has come into prominence within recent years and there is little doubt that the excellent work undertaken by the various Organisations in the interests of child welfare has played an important role in securing a considerable diminution in the amount of sickness amongst infants and a marked reduction in the rate of infant mortality. Many of the ailments from which infants still suffer are of a preventable nature. Much could be done in this direction by more thorough Ante-natal care, by an improved Midwifery Service, and by the spread of knowledge of the subject of Infant Care and Nurture.

Each case of infantile death is made the subject of a special investigation by your Health Visitors.

Nett Births in the year		M.	F.	Total.
}	Legitimate	965	961	1926
	Illegitimate	51	37	88
				2014
Nett Deaths in the year of		M.	F.	Total.
}	Legitimate Infants	81	70	151
	Illegitimate Infants	8	6	14
				165

The majority of these deaths fall under three groups, viz. :—

Congenital malformations, prematurity, atrophy, debility, and marasmus.....	69
Diarrhoea, enteritis, and convulsions.....	30
Respiratory and tubercular diseases.....	29

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1926. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes	{ Certified....	44	10	5	5	64	29	27	30	15	165
	{ Uncertified.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chickenpox.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	3	9
Scarlet fever.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Whooping cough.....		..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3	4
Diphtheria and Croup.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Other Tuberculous diseases..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions.....		1	1	..	1	3	1	1	3	..	8
Laryngitis.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis.....		..	..	..	..	..	1	2	5	2	10
Pneumonia (all forms).....		..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7	3	17
Diarrhœa.....		..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	4
Enteritis.....		..	..	..	..	..	6	6	3	3	18
Gastritis.....		1	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	4
Syphilis.....		..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Rickets.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlying.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at birth.....		3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
Atelectasis.....		1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Congenital Malformations ..		8	..	..	..	8	3	1	..	..	12
Premature birth.....		27	4	2	3	36	9	2	..	..	47
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus.....		2	2	1	..	5	3	2	..	..	10
Other causes.....		1	3	..	1	5	2	3	1	..	11
Totals.....		44	10	5	5	64	29	27	30	15	165

Notification of Births.

Under the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, I have received during the year 2168 notifications. It is satisfactory to record that 98.9 per cent. of the total births occurring in the Borough were notified under these Acts.

The total number of births registered during the same period was 2,019.

The Births were notified as follows :—

By Midwives.....	1692
„ Medical Practitioners.....	397
„ Other Persons.....	79
Number of cases not notified.....	22
	<hr/>
Total.....	2190
	<hr/>

The discrepancy between the number of births notified and the number registered is due to the fact that whereas births must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of their occurrence, a period of six weeks is allowed under the Births, &c., Registration Act, 1836, for registration with the District Registrar.

Your Health Visitors visit the homes of all babies upon receipt of the birth notification. During these visits advice is tendered to the mother as to the future care of the infant, and assistance is given where necessary. These visits are of an intimate personal character and afford excellent opportunities for education and propaganda in Infant Welfare. The mothers continue to shew an increasing appreciation of the help and advice thus given and the number of instances where such visits are not desired has become very small.

Your Health Visitors have carried out their arduous and difficult duties with skill and tact and by their sympathy and their devotion have won the confidence of the mothers.

During the year your Health Visitors paid 12,464 visits, of which 7,022 were in connection with births notified. Visits to cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases, e.g., Measles, Whooping Cough, Chickenpox, etc., numbered 186.

The number of visits to expectant mothers was 178, of these 150 were first visits and 28 re-visits. Printed instructions are given to the prospective mother concerning herself and the baby.

91 Lectures on Infant Hygiene were given by your Health Visitors during the year to the elder girls in attendance at the Public Elementary Schools, as compared with 77 in the previous year.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS, 1926.

Total Visits.....	12464
Births, First Visits.....	2109
„ Re-visits.....	4913
Schools Visited.....	114
Midwives.....	69
Outworkers.....	110
Lectures.....	91
Deaths from all causes.....	149
Visits to Ante-natal Cases.....	178
„ Children, 1-5 years.....	2037
Attendances at Welfare Centres.....	832

Still-Births.

Information as to the occurrence of Still-Births is obtained from Midwives, from the Health Visitors during the course of their district visitation, and from the Registrars of the various Cemeteries in the town.

During 1926, 84 Still-born children were buried within the Borough.

59 Still-births were notified to the Health Department by Midwives as occurring within their practice, in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

The number of cases of this disease notified during the year was 24, as compared with 34 for 1925.

<i>Cases.</i>			<i>Vision un- impaired.</i>	<i>Vision im- paired.</i>	<i>Total Blind- ness.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
<i>Notified.</i>	<i>Treated.</i>					
	<i>At Home.</i>	<i>In Hospital.</i>				
24	20	4	23	1	—	—

Of the 24 cases notified 19 were reported to the Matron of the Barnsley Home in order that a nurse should visit and give treatment.

The Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926.

These new Regulations of the Ministry of Health in connection with the notification and treatment of Ophthalmia Neonatorum came into operation on 1st October, 1926. The responsibility for notification to the Medical Officer of Health of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum now rests upon the Medical Practitioner in attendance upon the case, but, in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board, midwives are still required (1) to summon medical assistance in all cases, however slight, of inflammation of, or discharge from, the eyes of a child, and (2) to send notice immediately to the Local Supervising Authority that such assistance has been sought.

Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee has decided to refrain in future from exercising their power of recovery of expenses incurred by Midwives in calling in medical help for this condition under Section 14 (4) of the Midwives Act, 1918. This measure will ensure that each case shall receive prompt attention.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

An outbreak of this disease occurred within the area of the County Borough of Stockport in June, 1926, and subsequent months. The following is an excerpt from the report upon the outbreak which was made to the Ministry of Health in March, 1927, when the period of compulsory notification of this disease had expired :—

“ The attention of the Public Health Department was drawn to the presence of an epidemic of Pemphigus Neonatorum in June, 1926, by the Health Visitors who discovered, upon investigation, that seven cases had occurred in the practice of one Midwife (B.). Five of these cases were of mild type, but two proved fatal. The Midwife concerned was interviewed by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health, who made arrangements for the disinfection of her person, clothing and instruments. Acting upon the advice of her private medical attendant the Midwife concerned, who had been in indifferent health for some time, decided to take a fortnight's holiday. Prior to her departure from Stockport, and without consulting the Health Department, she handed over all her cases to another Midwife (S.). On the 28th June, 1926, the Medical Officer of Health interviewed Midwife (S.) who reported two suspicious cases of Pemphigus in patients who had been transferred to her from Midwife (B.). These cases were visited by the Medical Officer of Health and were found to be suffering from Pemphigus Neonatorum. With the consent of the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee the following steps were immediately taken by the Medical Officer of Health to deal with the outbreak :—

- (1) The Town Clerk was requested to take the necessary steps to have Pemphigus Neonatorum made compulsorily notifiable within the County Borough of Stockport for a period of six months.
- (2) On 30th June, 1926, the Medical Officer of Health lectured to all the Midwives at the Child Welfare Centre, Great Portwood Street, Stockport, upon the subject of Pemphigus Neonatorum, pointed out the importance of all suspicious cases being reported at once to the Health Department by the Midwife concerned, and emphasised the necessity for calling in medical help in such cases.
- (3) Copies of Memo. 103/Med. (Memorandum on Pemphigus Neonatorum) were purchased and distributed to all Medical Practitioners and to all Midwives practising within the Borough.
- (4) Arrangements were made for all cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum and for the unaffected patients in the practices of Midwives (B.) and (S.) to be attended by the Staff of the Stockport District Nursing Association.

- (5) On 24th August, 1926, a circular letter was sent by the Medical Officer of Health to all Medical Practitioners within the Borough soliciting their co-operation in securing early notification of cases of this disease.
- (6) All Midwives in whose practices cases of this disease occurred were disinfected together with their clothing and equipment at the Isolation Hospital, Cherry Tree Lane, Stockport.

Incidence of Cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum.

	<i>Cases.</i>
From the beginning of June, 1926, until 2nd September, 1926.....	21
(Of these 11 occurred in June, 8 in July, and 2 in August, and no less than 16 of these cases had been attended by the two Midwives referred to).	
During the period from 2nd September, 1926, to the 1st March, 1927, i.e., the period during which this disease was compulsorily notifiable, the number of cases notified by Medical Practitioners was.....	7
(Of these 7 cases, 4 occurred in the practice of one Midwife (W.) within a few days. Midwife (W.) after disinfection and a short holiday resumed duty and has had no further cases).	
Total number of cases from 1st June, 1926, to 1st March, 1927.....	28
With the exception of the two fatal cases all cases notified were of mild type.	
All cases notified were investigated by the Staff of the Health Department and doubtful cases were visited by the Medical Officer of Health."	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES :—

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The Ante-natal Clinic which was commenced last year at the Portwood Welfare Centre has been continued during 1926. Clinics were held bi-monthly on Monday afternoons and have been conducted by Dr. Richmond. It is hoped that this important branch of the work will be extended at an early date. Midwives continue to bring their cases to the Clinic in ever-increasing numbers, and the mothers readily avail themselves of the facilities thus provided.

During 1926, 130 expectant mothers attended this Clinic for advice, as compared with 61 in 1925. The total number of attendances was 210.

Child Welfare Clinics.

(1.) Great Portwood Street Child Welfare Centre.

During the year valuable work has continued to be carried out at the Great Portwood Street Child Welfare Centre.

The following is a summary of the work :—

New Cases	556.
Total weighings	7,535.
Medical consultations	2,242.
Total attendances	11,143.

Rachitic children receive special attention (e.g., massage, etc.) for which purpose 200 special attendances have been made, and the advice given to the mothers is proving extremely valuable; many mothers are ignorant of the elementary principles of rearing their children, especially in the case of the first child.

It is gratifying to learn that the infantile mortality amongst the babies attending the Welfare Centres is only 34 per 1,000, which compares very favourably with 81.9, the rate for the Borough generally.

The work of a Child Welfare Centre is chiefly for the purposes of Education and Propaganda. Advice is given as to Baby Feeding and the general hygiene of mother and child, e.g., Regular Habits, Cleanliness, Clothing, &c.

Only trivial ailments are treated at the Clinics. Cases of illness are referred to their own doctors. The babies are weighed accurately and regularly and a record is kept of each child's weight. Mothers who attend the centres regularly have the privilege of purchasing dried milk, &c., when ordered, at a price considerably lower than the usual retail price.

Your staff have received valuable assistance in the work of the Portwood Child Welfare Centre from a number of lady helpers and to them I would tender the thanks of the Committee and my personal gratitude for their help.

The Clinics have been very well attended. In fact, so great has been the rush of work that it has been impossible to carry out talks on health matters to groups of mothers. Your staff have had to confine their attention to instructions to individual mothers.

(2.) Stockport School for Mothers and Babies' Welcome.

The Voluntary Welfare Organisation at Churchgate House, and the branch Centre in connection with it at Reddish, have also done a large amount of excellent child welfare work during the year.

The following is a summary of the work done at these Centres:—

	Churchgate House.		Reddish.
New children attended	292	...	196
Total number of weighings	4875	...	2568
Number of medical consultations...	1864	...	883
Total attendances	7083	...	3126

Arising out of a circular from the Ministry of Health recommending a contribution from the Local Authority to Voluntary Centres which co-operate with Municipal schemes, the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee granted during the year £100 towards the cost of administration of Churchgate House and £50 for the Reddish Centre.

The following table gives the feeding of infants at 3 months of age and their condition of health :—

YEAR 1926.

	BREAST-FED.		PARTIALLY BREAST-FED.		ARTIFICIALLY-FED.:	
	HEALTHY.	DELICATE.	HEALTHY.	DELICATE.	HEALTHY.	DELICATE.
1903 to 1907	4230 or 97.4% 4342	112 or 2.6% 4342	366 or 77.6% 472	106 or 22.4% 472	582 or 42.8% 1360	778 or 57.2% 1360
1908 to 1912	6616 or 97.3% 6871	255 or 2.7% 6871	700 or 81.5% 859	159 or 18.5% 859	786 or 52.6% 1493	707 or 47.4% 1493
1913 to 1917	2954 or 96.6% 3060	106 or 3.4% 3060	449 or 82.1% 547	98 or 17.9% 547	620 or 57.9% 1070	450 or 42.1% 1070
1918 to 1922	3675 or 98% 3747	72 or 2% 3747	588 or 86.7% 678	90 or 13.3% 678	1378 or 80.5% 1711	333 or 19.5% 1711
1923 & 1924	1562 or 98.6% 1589	27 or 1.4% 1589	209 or 92.5% 226	17 or 7.5% 226	739 or 78.6% 940	201 or 21.4% 940
1925	612 or 98.2% 623	11 or 1.8% 623	112 or 88.8% 126	14 or 11.1% 126	307 or 81.2% 378	71 or 18.8% 378
1926	734 or 98.8% 742	8 or 1.2% 742	67 or 81.7% 82	15 or 18.3% 82	394 or 81.4% 484	90 or 18.6% 484

The figures shewing the different methods of feeding at 3 months of age are as follows :—

BREAST-FED—56.7% PARTIALLY BREAST-FED—6.3% ARTIFICIALLY FED—37%

In the medical work at the Child Welfare Clinics I have had the valuable assistance of Dr. Richmond, Assistant Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. Slater's services were also available during the earlier part of the year under review for this work, and to him, and to Dr. Lakin, for his work at Churchgate House, I tender my thanks. Dr. Haworth, Assistant School Medical Officer, with the permission of the Chairman and members of the Education Committee, deputised for me at the Child Welfare Clinics for a month during my absence.

The present position of the work of Maternity and Child Welfare in Stockport has been reviewed by your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during the year and the question of the extension of the Committee's activities has been considered. The following Special Report upon the subject was presented by me to the Committee in September, 1926, and at the end of the year under review the matters therein mentioned were still under consideration:—

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL, STOCKPORT.

17th September, 1926.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

To the Chairman and Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

In accordance with your request I have pleasure in submitting the following report upon the present arrangements for carrying out Maternity and Child Welfare Work in Stockport, together with a few suggestions as to measures to secure extension of this work in the future.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee is concerned with the health of the mother before, during, and after the birth of her child, and with the health of the child from its birth until it attains the age of five years, i.e., during the Ante-natal, Neo-natal, and Post-natal periods.

For the purposes of this report it will not be necessary to deal with the arrangements during the Neo-natal, period, i.e., Provision of Maternity Home, Supervision of District Midwifery Service, and Medical Assistance at Confinements, &c., as these questions have previously received your attention.

The administrative arrangements for securing supervision of mother and child during the Ante-natal and Post-natal periods have been carried out in Stockport partly by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of the Stockport County Borough Council and partly by the voluntary organisation known as "The Stockport School for Mothers and Babies' Welcome," and Clinics have been established as follows:—

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.**(1.) Great Portwood Street.**

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS : Alternate Mondays (2nd and 4th each month).

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :

Tuesday, 2-5 p.m. Weighings and Consultations.

Wednesday, Nil

Thursday, 2-5 p.m. „ „

Friday, 2-5 p.m. „ „ and Massage.

(2.) Churchgate House.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :

Monday, 2-5 p.m. Weighings and Consultations.

Tuesday, Nil

Wednesday, 2-5 p.m. „ „ (H.V. for Food)

Thursday, 2-5 p.m. Mothers' Class.

(3) Reddish.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.:

Tuesday, Mothers' Class and Weighings.

Thursday, 2-5 p.m. Weighings and Consultations.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The rate of Maternal Mortality during childbirth has remained stationary during the last twenty years although the rate of Infantile Mortality in Stockport has been reduced within the same period from 203 per 1,000 births in 1904, to 97 per 1,000 births in 1925. The causes of Maternal Mortality are to a large extent of a preventable character and in the Ante-natal Clinic we have a most valuable weapon in our efforts to lessen the injuries and to prevent the deaths of women in childbirth.

The Ante-natal Clinic held fortnightly at the Portwood Street Child Welfare Centre is well attended by mothers and is utilised extensively by the midwives who are bringing or sending their cases in ever-increasing numbers. It will be realised that these mothers, especially during the later months of pregnancy, are unable to undergo the physical strain of a long journey to the Clinic. Further, with the limited time at present available for this work it is impossible to avoid long periods of waiting at the Clinic. An extension of this work is urgently called for, but I am unable to make suitable arrangements with the Medical Staff at present at my disposal.

Child Welfare Clinics.

The scope and aims of a Child Welfare Clinic may be summarised briefly as follows:—The baby is brought regularly and weighed accurately. The mother receives advice, as to the feeding, clothing, and general hygiene of the baby, from the Health Visitors under the supervision of the Medical Officer. Medical consultations are

also arranged for ailing babies, &c., and the mother is advised as to appropriate treatment and as to where such treatment is to be obtained, e.g., from private medical practitioners, Hospitals, Poor Law Medical Service, &c.

The aims of a Child Welfare Clinic are therefore essentially for the purposes of education and propaganda. The popularity of the existing Child Welfare Clinics in Stockport is amply demonstrated by the statistics of attendances, &c., details of which are submitted to you at monthly intervals. At the Great Portwood Street Clinic the premises are unsuitable for handling the large numbers in attendance, and there is serious overcrowding. The Health Visitors are hampered in their work. Talks to groups of mothers and Mothercraft Classes are impossible of fulfilment in consequence of overcrowding. The number of Medical Consultations is seriously limited and the present Medical Staff cannot cope with the demand.

At Churchgate House and at Reddish the work of the Clinics is extending and here again the Medical Consultations are limited in consequence of the shortage of staff.

1. Lack of Staff.

Dr. Slater's services are no longer available for work at the Portwood Centre and the services of Dr. Lakin have had to be requisitioned for work at Churchgate House.

The appointment of a woman Assistant Medical Officer with special experience in Maternity and Child Welfare Work is urgently called for. Such an appointment would meet the wishes of the Ministry of Health, and would enable me to arrange for more effective supervision of the district midwives, to carry out more complete supervision of the Maternity Home and to secure increased efficiency in the training of Pupil Midwives.

2. Inadequacy and Insufficiency of Child Welfare Centres.

If medical help were forthcoming additional Maternity and Child Welfare Centres could be opened in congested districts, e.g., in Hillgate, Heaton Norris, &c.

From the aspect of Preventive Medicine, Maternity and Child Welfare Work is of great importance. In this work we seek to prevent injury or death of the mother and so to secure for her home and her children her indispensable services. By our contact with the very beginnings of disease in the young child we are able to wield a powerful influence for the prevention of serious illness. The results of these efforts, difficult of estimation in terms of their monetary value, are nevertheless substantial.

I have submitted details of the present scope of this work and evidence of the need for its extension. The first step is unification of the work of the Statutory and the Voluntary Committees and for this

purpose the appointment, without delay, of an Assistant Medical Officer, with special experience in Maternity and Child Welfare Work, is essential.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

NICOLAS GEBBIE,

Medical Officer of Health, &c.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

Assistance in the supply of milk and other nourishments is provided by your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee to applicants who are in necessitous circumstances. Careful enquiry is made by your staff into the financial position of each applicant for assistance, and a report is submitted upon each case to a Sub-Committee of your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee specially appointed for this purpose, and consisting of the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee (Councillor C. Walmsley, J.P.), and Councillor J. W. Fidler.

The cases dealt with together with the cost of this service are as follows:—

DRIED MILK.

Number of cases dealt with 161

Quantities supplied:—

Free 4470½ lbs.

Half-cost price 454 lbs.

Total Cost £353 6s. 3d.

8,819½ lbs. of Dried Milk were supplied at cost price, which is considerably lower than that at which it may be obtained elsewhere.

Orthopaedic Cases.

Children under five years of age who are suffering from crippling defects are referred by your Medical Officers to the Orthopaedic Department of the Stockport Infirmary. Full particulars of the Organisation, which is under the Honorary Orthopaedic Surgeon to the Stockport Infirmary (Mr. E. S. Brentnall) are given on page 68 of this report.

Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of the scheme the following work was carried out at the Stockport Infirmary for non-tuberculous children under five years of age:—

No. of cases treated	13
Out-patients attendances	29
Attendances for Massage	} 73
Attendances for medical exercises	
No. of In-patient Days	4
No. of X-Ray Examinations	—

Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital.

There is accommodation at your Council's Maternity Hospital at Mile End Hall for 15 mothers and 15 babies. The administration of the Hospital is carried out by the Maternity Home Sub-Committee of your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. Your Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital.

The premises at Mile End Hall were opened as a Maternity Home on 13th June, 1925, as the accommodation previously provided at "Glebe House," proved to be inadequate for the needs of the community.

Applicants for admission are interviewed by the Matron and full particulars of the financial position of each applicant are submitted to the Maternity Home Sub-Committee. This Sub-Committee fixes the charge to be made in each case.

Nurses are trained by the Matron and her Permanent Staff at the Hospital for the examination of the Central Midwives Board, the district work being undertaken by Mrs. Barr, at No. 1, Caistor Street, Stockport.

The Matron, Miss B. L. Scott, and the Nursing and Domestic Staffs of the Hospital have carried out their duties in a highly satisfactory manner.

I have to thank my medical colleagues in the town for their co-operation in sending cases to the hospital.

The average duration of stay in Hospital of each patient was fourteen days.

During the year the following cases were dealt with at the Hospital :—

Number of mothers remaining in Hospital on 1st January,			
	1926.....		8
"	"	admitted during year.....	218
"	"	discharged during year.....	218
"	"	died during year.....	—
"	"	remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1926.....	8

Number of babies remaining in Hospital on 1st January,			
	1926.....		8
"	"	born during year (live-births 212, still-births 4).....	216
"	"	discharged.....	211
"	"	died (still-births 4).....	5
"	"	remaining in Hospital on 31st December, 1926.....	8

Number of Miscarriages.....	2
-----------------------------	---

No case of Puerperal Sepsis occurred in the Home during 1926.

The provision of isolation accommodation at the Hospital has been under consideration by your Maternity Home Sub-Committee during the year and it is hoped that at an early date a scheme will be completed for submission to the Ministry of Health for approval, and to your Council for its acceptance.

Mile End Maternity Hospital. Annual Statistics—Year 1926.

- (1) Number of cases in the Home on 1st January, 1926 : 8.
- (2) Number of cases admitted during 1926 : 218. (216 Births. 2 Miscarriages).
- (3) Average duration of stay : 2 weeks.
- (4) Number of cases delivered by—
 - (a) Midwives : 163.
 - (b) Doctors : 53.
- (5) Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by the Midwife with reasons for requiring assistance : 69.

(a) Pernicious Vomiting.....	1	(c) Post Partum Haemorrhage	1
(a) Albuminuria.....	1	(c) Adherent Placenta.....	1
(b) Obstructed Labour.....	9	(d) Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1
(b) Miscarriage.....	2	(d) Phimosis.....	1
(b) Placenta Prævia.....	1	(d) Dangerous Feebleness of	
(b) Malpresentation.....	1	Infant.....	4
(c) Ruptured Perineum.....	36	(d) Inflammation of Eyes.....	2
(c) Mastitis (Mother).....	1	(d) Mastitis (Baby).....	1
(c) Illness of Patient.....	6		

 - (a) Ante-natal : 2.
 - (b) During Labour : 13.
 - (c) After Labour : 45.
 - (d) For Infant : 9.
- (6) Number of cases notified as—
 - (a) Puerperal Fever : Nil.
 - (b) Puerperal Pyrexia : 1. Discharged well.
- (7) Number of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum : Nil.
- (8) Number of cases notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum with result of treatment in each case : 1 transferred to Manchester Eye Hospital. Lost sight in eye concerned.
- (9) Number of cases of Inflammation of the Eyes, however slight : 3.
- (10) Number of Infants not entirely breast-fed while in the Institution with reasons why they were not breast-fed : 11. Illness of mother and failure of mother's milk.
- (11) Number of maternal deaths with causes : Nil.
- (12) Number of foetal deaths (a) still-born, and (b) within 10 days of birth and their causes : Still-births 4. Foetal deaths 1. (Inanition).

Supervision of Midwives.

During the year 55 Midwives gave notice of their intention to practise within the Borough. These include 10 at the Union Hospital, 1 at the Union Workhouse, and 6 at the Municipal Maternity Home. 4 of these

Midwives reside outside the Borough but as they attended certain cases within the Borough they were requested to give notice of their intention to practise within this area.

The qualification of the Midwives who practise in the Borough are as follows :—

Possessing Certificates from the Obstetrical Society of London.....	2
Possessing Certificates from a recognised Hospital....	3
Having passed the examination of the Central Midwives Board.....	42
Enrolled by virtue of having been in bona-fidè practice as Midwives a year prior to the passing of the Act..	8
	—
Total.....	55
	—

The extent of their practice may be seen from the following numbers :—

Number of cases attended by Midwives alone.....	1163
Number of cases attended by Midwives together with a Doctor.....	655

During the year 1 midwife attended more than 100 cases alone, and 3 midwives attended more than 100 cases each, in some of which a Medical man was also in attendance. 8 Midwives did not attend any cases except in co-operation with a Doctor.

In every case of difficulty the Midwife must summon medical assistance and notify the Medical Officer of Health that this has been done.

During the year the number of notifications of sending for medical assistance and the conditions for which help was required were as follows :—

Post-partum Hæmorrhage....	9	Condition of Mother.....	48
Ante-partum Hæmorrhage...	8	Condition of Eyes.....	23
Adherent Placenta.....	13	Abortion.....	15
Placenta Prævia.....	3	Uterine Inertia.....	3
Abnormal Labour.....	5	Premature Birth.....	16
Delayed Labour.....	24	Still-birth.....	2
Obstructed Labour.....	35	Pemphigus.....	15
Ruptured Perineum.....	105		
Contracted Pelvis.....	8		—
Mal-presentation.....	22		
Condition of Child.....	29		
		Total.....	383
			—

In accordance with the regulations of the Central Midwives Board the following notices have also been received from the Midwives :—

Artificial Feeding.....	19
Still-births.....	26
Deaths occurring in practice.....	—
Liability to be a source of infection.....	3
Having laid out a dead body.....	8

There has been an increase in the number of cases in which Midwives have sought medical aid, owing to complications arising, in connection with the confinements they attended, 383 calls on medical men being made during the year, as compared with 376 calls in the previous year. 261 accounts have been rendered by the Doctors in respect of these services amounting to £357 12s. 0d. During the year £49 15s. 0d. has been recovered from patients for whom the medical services were provided.

The Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926.

Part I. of the above-mentioned Act came into operation during the year and amends the Midwives Acts, 1902 to 1918, as regards unqualified practice, suspension from practice, and the payment of Doctors' accounts for emergency cases.

Part II. of the Act, which relates to Registration of Maternity Homes, comes into operation upon 1st January, 1927.

Your Maternity and Child Welfare Committee considered certain suggestions made by your Medical Officer of Health as to a Course of Lectures for Midwives practising in this area, and approved the following syllabus of lectures for the Session 1926-27.

These Lectures have been well attended by the Midwives and have been much appreciated :—

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Subject.</i>	<i>Lecturer.</i>
24/11/1926 ..	" Breast Feeding, its importance and the rules guiding its continuance "	.. Dr. Catherine Chisholm.
15/12/1926 ..	" The Premature Infant "	.. Dr. H. Richmond.
19/ 1/1927 ..	" Ante-natal Work "	.. Dr. K. King May-Atkinson.
7/ 2/1927 ..	" Rickets "	.. Dr. W. H. Rowell.
7/ 3/1927 ..	(1) " Smallpox and Vaccination "	} Dr. N. Gebbie.
	(2) " Alterations in Rules of Central Midwives Board "	

On 1st November, 1926, a Meeting of the Midwives was held at Mile End Hall Maternity Hospital, by kind permission of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman of the Committee your Medical Officer of Health presided, and it was unanimously resolved to form a Stockport Branch of the Midwives' Institute.

The following Officers were appointed :—

President : Dr. N. Gebbie (Medical Officer of Health).

Chairman : Mrs. Pickford.

Hon. Treasurer : Miss Jones.

Hon. Secretary : Miss Faulkner.

Representative Members : Miss Snowden, Mrs. G. Smith.

Under the auspices of this newly-formed Stockport Branch of the Midwives' Institute several social evenings have been held and in addition a syllabus of lectures has been arranged for 1927.

WEEKLY MEANS OF OBSERVATIONS AT THE BOROUGH
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY, STOCKPORT.

Latitude 53° 24' 12" N. Longitude 2° 9' 14" W.

Cistern of Barometer 261-56 feet and top of Raingauge 231.79 feet
above Mean Sea-level.

1926.	Thermometers.		Average daily Rain- fall.	1926.	Thermometers.		Average daily Rain- fall.
	Underground.				Underground.		
	1 Foot.	4 Feet.			1 Foot.	4 Feet.	
1st week	39.5	39.5	.15	27th week	—	54.6	—
2nd „	40.3	41.5	.16	28th „	—	57.0	.13
3rd „	38.3	42.0	—	29th „	—	58.1	—
4th „	35.5	40.3	.12	30th „	—	59.8	.14
5th „	40.1	41.0	.04	31st „	—	58.5	.07
6th „	40.5	42.0	.19	32nd „	—	58.0	.03
7th „	39.6	42.5	.05	33rd „	—	—	.23
8th „	39.9	41.6	.08	34th „	—	—	.16
9th „	44.6	43.1	.03	35th „	—	—	.05
10th „	42.0	43.8	.09	36th „	—	—	.12
11th „	43.5	44.1	.06	37th „	—	—	.09
12th „	41.5	44.5	—	38th „	—	—	.05
13th „	37.8	43.1	—	39th „	—	—	.18
14th „	42.3	43.0	—	40th „	—	—	—
15th „	47.5	45.5	—	41st „	—	—	.10
16th „	45.6	46.1	.04	42nd „	—	—	.26
17th „	44.8	46.0	.04	43rd „	—	—	.04
18th „	—	46.3	.10	44th „	—	—	—
19th „	—	47.0	.09	45th „	—	—	.10
20th „	—	47.0	.21	46th „	—	—	.12
21st „	—	47.0	—	47th „	—	—	.34
22nd „	—	49.3	.14	48th „	—	—	—
23rd „	—	51.6	.04	49th „	—	—	.06
24th „	—	53.0	.22	50th „	—	—	.02
25th „	—	53.0	.06	51st „	—	—	.06
26th „	—	54.0	.01	52nd „	—	—	—

Where figures are not stated, the instruments were out of order.

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